

Freedom of Religion or Belief & Blasphemy

Prisoners List

World Report 2013

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Introduction

FORB Prisoners: 24 Countries in the Dock Blasphemy Prisoners: 9 Countries in the Dock

Last year, **Human Rights Without Frontiers (HRWF)** published its first Freedom of Religion or Belief (FORB) Prisoners List for the year 2012. The present list comprises hundreds of prisoners that were behind bars in 2013 on the ground of laws forbidding or restricting their basic rights to freedom of religion or belief: (1) freedom to change religion or belief, (2) freedom to share one's religion or beliefs, (3) freedom of association, (4) freedom of worship and assembly, or (5) conscientious objection to military service.

This Prisoners List has been expanded over the previous year to document FORB prisoners in 24 countries: **Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Libya, Morocco, Nagorno-Karabakh, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.**

This year, a specific section has been created for prisoners whose freedom of expression related to religious issues was violated on the basis of laws against blasphemy, defamation of religion or the Prophet and similar issues: **Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia and Turkey.**

Prisoners charged for defending other human rights issues, the rule of law of democracy who happened to also be clerics or to be motivated by their religious beliefs are not included in the

FORB Prisoners List. Their actions are undoubtedly laudable; however, HRWF considers such prisoners to belong to the broader category of human rights defenders.

In addition, it is unclear in certain cases whether criminal charges – which involve religious persons, although the charges themselves are unrelated to religion or belief – would be substantiated by due process of law. Where sufficient information is lacking in such cases, they do not appear in this report.

It is also important to note that not all the countries listed here are equal offenders of FORB in terms of number of prisoners, gravity of the sentences and issues of repression. For instance, while **North Korea** denies almost all genuine form of religious freedom, other states arrest, detain or jail people on specific grounds, such as:

- change of religion or belief and missionary activities
- freedom of association, worship and assembly
- Conscientious objection to military service.

Countries of particular concern

Among the countries for which access to information was possible, **China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea** and **South Korea** are undoubtedly the ones that by far have the highest number of FORB prisoners.

In **China**, a politically Communist state, five religions are recognized by the state: Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Protestantism and Catholicism. Government and Communist Party control over religious affairs is exercised through the *State Administration for Religious Affairs* (SARA) and lower level

Religious Affairs Bureaus (RABs) under the State Council, the Party's United Front Work Department (UFWD) and the five "patriotic" religious associations: The Buddhist Association of China (BAC), the Catholic Patriotic Association of China (CPA), the Islamic Association of China (IAC), the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of Protestant Churches in China (TSPM), and the Chinese Taoist Association (CTA).

All religious groups must register with the appropriate religious organization to be allowed to carry out their activities legally and may not deviate from the doctrines approved by the state. FORB prisoners in China belong to groups that are not recognized by the state (Protestant house churches), are banned as evil cults (Falun Gong), profess allegiance to a spiritual leader living outside China (Roman Catholics faithful to the Pope and Tibetan Buddhists faithful to the Dalai Lama) or are suspected of separatism (Uyghur Muslims and Tibetan Buddhists).

According to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) 2013 Annual Report, authorities detained close to 1,500 Protestants over the reporting period. Falun Gong practitioners and Tibetan Buddhists are also particularly targeted by the repression.

The HRWF report documents several mass arrests and a wide range of individual cases of believers of all faiths serving prison terms.

The HRWF Watch List does not claim to be exhaustive but shows the magnitude of the repression affecting religious believers in China.

In **Eritrea**, a military regime, there are only four officially registered religious groups: the Eritrean Orthodox Church, Sunni

Islam, the Roman Catholic Church, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea. They are all under the control of the government. Members of unregistered religious groups continued to be put behind bars for exercising their freedom assembly, proselytizing and manifesting their religion in the public space. According to the USCIRF published at the beginning of 2013, an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 religious prisoners were languishing in prison. However, according to the 2013 report of the US Department of State, there were fewer such detentions than last year.

Moreover, the government requires all young people who are physically and mentally capable to perform a term of national service, including military training. The law does not provide for conscientious objector status, nor are there alternative activities for persons willing to perform national service but unwilling to engage in military activities. A new government civilian militia program requires most males and some females between the ages of 18 and 70 not currently performing military portions of national service or not serving in the military to attend militia training and to carry government-provided weapons. The penalties for non-participation in militia training include detention and hard labor.

At last report, 52 Jehovah's Witnesses, both men and women, are imprisoned in harsh conditions. Though none have been formally charged or tried, they are detained for conscientious objection, for religious activity or for undisclosed reasons. Three men, Paulos Eyassu, Isaac Mogos, and Negede Teklemariam, have been in prison for conscientious objection to military service since 1994. Misghina Gebretinsae and Yohannes Haile, two Jehovah's Witnesses over the age of 60, died while imprisoned.

In **Iran**, a theocratic state, Evangelical and Pentecostal churches are attracting an increasing number of Muslims and converts develop missionary activities among their former co-religionists despite the harsh repression and the threat of imprisonment.

Baha'is are *de facto* considered apostates from Islam. The right to believe in the Baha'i faith and to profess it individually or in community is denied to them. The official accusations leveled against the more than 100 Baha'is in prison are serious indeed: membership in a deviant sect with the goal of taking action against the security of the country; espionage; propaganda activities against the Islamic order; cooperation with Israel; membership in illegal groups and organizations; forming illegal administrative groups known as moral education classes with intent to attract Muslims and to promote the ideologies of the perverse Baha'i sect. These frightening accusations usually mask quite a normal activity such as carrying out community activities or teaching the Baha'i faith.

A number of Sunni and Shia Muslims are also in prison because of their voicing of dissenting opinions. Leaders of the Zoroastrian religious community are also behind bars.

Capital punishment or sentences to multiple lashes are also not uncommon in Iran.

In **South Korea**, a democratic country, 599 young Jehovah's Witnesses were each serving 18-month prison terms for conscientious objection to military service by the end of the year. From the Korean War period to the present, South Korea has relentlessly prosecuted young Witness men who refuse military service and has not provided an alternative to resolve the issue. During this period, South Korea has sentenced 17,549 Witnesses to a combined total of 34,100 years in prison for refusing to perform military service. South Korea has failed to

abide by its international treaty obligations and has refused to recognize the fundamental rights of conscientious objectors.

Concerning **North Korea**, a totalitarian Communist country, access to information about FORB and other prisoners is impossible. The USCIRF estimated that 150,000 to 200,000 prisoners were in North Korea's network of political prison camps, including estimates of 6,000 Christians incarcerated in Prison No. 15 in the northern part of the country. However, no verifiable statistics are available concerning FORB prisoners.

Conscientious Objectors in Armenia and Azerbaijan

In **Armenia**, a former Communist country, about 30 conscientious objectors to military service were still serving prison terms in the first semester of 2013. However, in May 2013, the Armenian Parliament adopted a law providing for a civilian service which was totally independent from the Ministry of Defense.

By mid-November, all remaining conscientious objectors to military service were released in the framework of two general amnesties.

Over the last 20 years, 450 Jehovah's Witnesses had been sentenced to prison terms of 24-36 months for refusing to perform military service.

In **Azerbaijan**, the only two conscientious objectors sentenced to a prison term were released in the framework of a general amnesty. However, despite a constitutional provision for an alternative to "regular military service" and a pledge to harmonize its policy with Council of Europe standards upon the country's accession in 2001, there is still no law in Azerbaijan providing for such an option.

HRWF calls upon all concerned countries to release their FORB prisoners

The countries identified by HRWF in this Prisoners List are not the only ones that violate FORB. An increasing number of states now prefer to impose huge fines for changing religion or exercising freedom of association, worship and assembly. This is meant to have a deterrent effect on religious leaders and believers as well as divert the attention of human rights organizations.

HRWF publishes this annual report with the goal of catalyzing advocacy for the release FORB prisoners, including a number of forgotten prisoners who were sentenced years ago and who still remain in prison.

Therefore, HRWF calls upon the countries listed in this report

- to release all FORB prisoners and others sentenced on the grounds of freedom of expression in relation to religious issues and who have not used or advocated violence;
- to bring their national laws concerning freedom of religion or belief in harmony with UN standards.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF

ARMENIA

Jehovah's Witnesses

Names: 33 Jehovah's Witnesses were still in prison during the first semester of 2013.

Charges: Evading conscription of military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with their faith

Places of detention: Nubarashen Prison (near Yerevan), Erebuni (in Yerevan) and Kosh (near Ashtarak)

Court decisions: Between 2 and 3 years in prison

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 327, Part I which states that "Evasion from recurring draft military or alternative service call-up, training exercise or mobilization, without any order defined by Legislation of the Republic of Armenia as grounds for exemption, is punished with arrest for a maximum term of two months, or imprisonment for a maximum term of three years" (modified 16.12.2005).

Date of release: See table below

Other information: On 7th July 2011, the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) rendered its judgment that Armenia had violated the right to freedom of conscience in the case *Vahan Bayatyan v. Armenia*. Bayatyan is one of over 400 Jehovah's Witnesses who have been convicted and imprisoned for conscientious objection to military service since Armenia's accession to the Council of Europe in January 2001.

Name	Date of conviction or imprisonment	Sentence	Prison
Mnatsakanya, Harutyun	25/8/10	§ 327 I, 36 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Musheghyan, Aharon	12/11/10	§ 327 I, 36 months	Kosh Penal Institution
Voskanyan, Ashot	2/2/11	§ 327 I, 36 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Sargsyan, Samvel	3/2/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Kosh Penal Institution
Kirakosyan, Harutyun	9/3/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Sargsyan, Hayk	8/4/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Gasparyan, Hovik	11/4/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Kosh Penal Institution
Sardaryan, Hovhannes	1/7/11	§ 327 I, 24 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Adyan, Artur	7/7/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Margaryan, Vahagn	7/7/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Avetisyan, Garegin	19/7/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution

Khachatryan, Harutyun	27/7/11	§ 327 I, 30 months	Kosh Penal Institution
Sargsyan, Edouard	6/8/11	§ 327 I, 24 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Khudoyan, Maksim	6/8/12	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Sahakyan, Gevorg	23/8/12	§ 327 I, 24 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Aslanyan, Artur	28/9/12	§ 327 I, 30 months	Kosh Penal Institution
Vardanyan, Varazdat	8/10/12	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Zakaryan,Nver	9/10/12	§ 327 I, 24 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Grigoryan, Anania	15/11/12	§ 327 I, 24 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Khachatryan, Artsrun	26/12/12	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Stephanyan, Seryozha	19/1/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Arakelyan, Davit	24/1/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Ter-Galstanya, Vahe	1/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Hovhannisyan, Andranik	1/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution

Arakelyan, Gevorg	1/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Arakelyan, Aramayis	1/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Manasyan, Mikhail	4/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Boyajyan, Tigran	20/4/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Sargsyan, Vahe	28/2/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Yeremyan, Artyom	14/3/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Yesayan, Martiros	26/4/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Davtyan, Hakob	27/4/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution
Galstyan, Mushegh	29/4/13	§ 327 I, 30 months	Erebuni Penal Institution

AZERBAIJAN

Jehovah's Witnesses

Fakhraddin MIRZAYEV

Age: About 19 years

Place of residence: Gyanja [Gäncä]

Charges: Evading conscription of military service

Statement of the defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Place of detention: Gyanja's Investigation Prison No. 2, then moved to Prison Camp number 5, 5 Nomreli Cezacekmemussisesi, Halaj settlement, southwest of Baku

First court decision: 25th September 2012, sentenced to one year in prison by a court in Gyanja

Final court decision: 21st November 2012, a panel of three judges at Gyanja Appeal Court, chaired by Chingiz Mammadov, upheld the decision of the lower court sentencing Fakhraddin Mirzayev to one year's imprisonment.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 321.1 of the Criminal Code : “Evasion without lawful grounds of call-up to military service or of mobilization, with the purpose of evading serving in the military, is punishable by imprisonment for up to two years [in peacetime]”.

Date of release: 22nd May 2013 (Amnesty of political prisoners)

Other information: Azerbaijan committed itself to introduce an alternative service law by January 2003 upon its 2001 entrance into the Council of Europe. After its failure to comply, the Council of Europe's Venice Commission adopted a joint Opinion on Azerbaijan's Religion Law with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. The document

severely criticizes Azerbaijan for not introducing civilian service.

Kamran MIRZAYEV

Age: 18 years

Place of residence: Goychay

Charges: Evading conscription of military service

Statement of the defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith

First court decision: 12th March 2013, sentenced to nine months in prison by Goychay Court

Last court decision: Appeal rejected by the Sheki Appeal Court

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 321.1 of the Criminal Code : “Evasion without lawful grounds of call-up to military service or of mobilization, with the purpose of evading serving in the military, is punishable by imprisonment for up to two years [in peacetime]”.

Date of release: 22nd May 2013 (Amnesty of political prisoners)

Muslims

Imam Taleh BAGIROV

Age: 29 years

Date of arrest: 31st March 2013

Charges: Police claim to have found just over a gram of heroin on Bagirov

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges.

First court decision: On 27th June 2013, a Baku court ordered an extension of Bagirov's pre-trial detention.

Final court decision: Two years in prison

Place of detention: Pre-trial Investigation Prison in Kurdakhani, near Baku

Article of the criminal code: Criminal Code Article 281 ("Public appeals for violence directed against the state") or Article 283 ("Inciting national, racial or religious hatred").

Other information: Imam Bagirov had led prayers at the Hazrat Abulfaz Aga Mosque in the village of Mastaga on the Absheron peninsula near Baku. His supporters say the authorities were unhappy at his preaching against the Caucasian Muslim Board and state officials. They insist that the heroin that police claim to have found on Bagirov was planted.

Anar MELIKOV (Bagirov's driver)

Age: Early thirties

Date of arrest: 31st March 2013

Charges: Police claim to have found a gun and bullets on Melikov

Statement of the defendant: He rejects the charges which relate to the police's alleged discovery in his car of a knife, a Makarov pistol and four bullets.

Last court decision: 19 months in prison

Place of detention: Pre-trial Investigation Prison in Kurdakhani, near Baku

Article of the criminal code: Criminal Code Article 228.1 ("Illegal purchase, transfer, sale, storage, transportation or carrying of firearms, accessories, supplies and ammunition (except for a hunting rifle), and explosives"), which carries a maximum sentence of three years in jail; and Article 228.4

(" Illegal purchase, selling or carrying of a gas weapon or knife, except in districts where carrying of a knife is an accessory of national dress or connected to hunting"), which carries a maximum sentence of one year in jail.

CHINA

Protestants

Pastor ZHANG Shaojie, WU Guishan, ZHAO Guoli, ZHANG Cuixia and more than 20 others

Date and Place of arrest: 16-17th November 2013, Nanle County Christian Church (state-sanctioned church)

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Unusual arrest of state-sanctioned church members

ZHANG Yinan, GAO Yang, GAO Mary and 17 others

Date & Place of arrest: June 5th 2013, Xinyang, Henan

Statement of the defendant: Meeting at the Union Church in Xinyang to hear from an American missionary couple (Yang and Mary Gao)

Place of detention: Local police station

Duration of detention: A few hours

Other information: The police also seized the church's offering box, computer, CDs and the Chinese Union version of the Bible used by Pastor Zhang. Gao Yang and Gao Mary are married.

Pastor LI Min, WANG Yuan, LI Chengxi, ZHANG Chuanli, GOU Shuhua and 11 others

Place of residence: Langzhong, Sichuan province

Date & Place of arrest: 16th April 2013, Langzhong, Sichuan

Statement of the defendant: Holding a meeting of lay people to learn how to play musical instruments

Date of release: Ten believers were released the following day, but the six church leaders were administratively detained. Pastor Li Min, Wang Yuan and Li Chengxi were given a 15-day administrative detention sentence, while three others - Zhang Chuanli, Gou Shuhua and a seminary instructor whose name was not known - were given ten, five and three-day administrative detention sentences.

Other information: Local police and Domestic Security Protection agents also confiscated the Langzhong house church's Western brass wind instruments.

CHEN Hong, LIU Di, PAN Wenwen, REN Zhimin, SUN Yuefen, Yinhua

Place of residence: Provinces of Mongolia, Heilongjiang and Baishan

Date & Place of arrest: 1st August 2012 in the hamlet of Zhongxinbu, Shumugou village, Horqin Right Front Banner, in the city of Ulanhot

Charges: Using a cult to interfere with law enforcement and engaging in illegal evangelism

Statement of the defendants: Providing medical services in rural areas of Inner Mongolia

Place of detention: Horqin Right Front Banner police station

First court decision: 1st September 2012, Ms. Sun and Ms. Ren were sentenced to two years in a re-education through labour camp by the Reeducation through Labour Management Committee of Hinggan League

Last court decision: Request submitted by all six victims for an administrative review of their case

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Clause 3 of the "Supplementary Stipulations on Re-education through Labour," State Council Document No. 56 (1980)

Other information: Detainees' families have still not received the legally required written notifications of their detention.

GONG Bangkun, GONG Shengliang, HU Yong and XU Fuming (Evangelical South China Church)

Charges: Belonging to a cult; intentional assault and rape for Gong Shengliang

Statement of the defendants: Leaders of the unregistered South China Church

First court decision: December 2001, sentenced to death for “using a cult to undermine enforcement of the law”

Last court decision: In September 2002, a retrial sentenced Gong Shengliang, Xu Fuming and Hu Yong to life imprisonment. Gong Bangkun was given a 15-year prison term.

CUI Jiaxing, YANG Rongli, YANG Xuan (Linfen Church)

Place of residence: Linfen City

Date of Arrest: 13th September 2009

Charges: Illegally occupying farmland and disturbing transportation order

Statement of the defendants: Defending their church building from destruction by the authorities on 13th September 2009 (Fushan Church in Linfen City, Shanxi Province)

Place of detention: Yang Rongli and Wang Xiaoguang are in Taiyuan Detention Center, the other three at Yicheng County Detention Center.

Court decision: On 25th November 2009, Yang Rongli was sentenced to seven years in jail and fined 30,000 Yuan; Yang Xuan to three years and a half with a 20,000 Yuan fine; and Cui to five years and a half with a 50,000 Yuan fine.

Last court decision: In 2010, an appeal was rejected by the Linfen courts.

LIU Xinxing and XUE Yuxia (Total Scope Church)

Place of residence: Shaanxi province

Date & Place of arrest: 13th January 2012, Guodong village, town of Hejiaji, Zizhou County

Charges: Suspicion of organizing and using a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendants: Engaging in Christian activities

Place of detention: Provincial Women's Re-education-Through-Labour Management Centre

First court decision: 13th February 2012, sentenced to 18 months of re-education through labour by Yulin's Re-education through Labour Management Committee

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Clause 3 of the "Supplementary Stipulations on Re-education through Labour," State Council Document No. 56 (1980)

REN Lacheng and Wenxi LI (brothers)

Place of residence: Beijing

Date & Place of arrest: 17th June, Taiyuan, Shanxi province

Charges: Illegally operating a business

Statement of the defendant: Helping to open a Christian bookstore

First court decision: 17th June 2013, Xiaodian district court of Taiyuan sentenced Wenxi Li to two years and Lacheng Ren to five years in prison

Place of detention: Unknown

Dennis BALCOMBE

Date & Place of arrest: 20th April 2013 Nanyang, Henan province

Statement of the defendant: Attended a house church revival meeting

Place of detention: Placed under house arrest

Date of release: 22nd April 2013 returned to Hong Kong

CAO Xia

Date of birth: 15th February 1961

Place of residence: Daying Village, Rendian Town, Ye County, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organising a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Three and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Pingdingshan Detention Centre

Other information: She owns another residence where the group meets. Police seized from her home CDs of Hu Linpo preaching and a computer used to make copies of the sermon CDs. Police also confiscated an SUV parked outside, which belonged to a Christian attending the meeting.

HAN Hai

Date of birth: 16th April 1953

Place of residence: Yeyi Town, Ye County, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organising a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Seven and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Ye County Detention Centre

Other information: Previously, he was administratively detained twice and also sentenced to imprisonment in a labour camp for three years.

HU Linpo

Date of birth: 27th November 1962

Place of residence: Qianwang Village, Xiantai Town, Ye County, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organising a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Seven years in prison

Place of detention: Ye County Detention Centre

Other information: Hu is from Singapore and is the house church's main preacher. Hu was previously detained for 30 days in 1989.

LAI Yiwa

Charges: Printing 1,600 copies of Almighty God (also known as Real God or Eastern Lightning) publications in his home and distributing them to others

Statement of the defendants: Printed copies of Almighty God in his home

Last court decision: April 2013, seven years in prison

Place of detention: Beijing Prison

LI Dan

Date of birth: 10th August 1988

Place of residence: 41, Row 6, Chaohua Street, Zhengmei Group, Zhengzhou, Henan

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organising a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Seven and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Pingdingshan Detention Centre

Other information: She was involved in copying CDs.

LU Xia

Place of residence: Shayibake District of Urumqi

Date and Place of arrest: 23rd June 2013

Last court decision: 10 days of public security detention and a fine of 500 yuan

SONG Liangyu

Date & Place of arrest: 19th April 2013, Langzhong, Sichuan

Statement of the defendant: Attending a prayer meeting

Other information: Current status unknown. Song Liangyu is the wife of Pastor Li Min who was arrested on 16th April 2013.

Other information: Officers from the Shayibake District Branch of Urumqi Municipal Public Security Bureau broke in during a Bible study organized by ZHU Jinfeng.

TAN Wen

Place of residence: Aletai Road in the Shayibake District of Urumqi

Date and Place of arrest: 9th June 2013

Charges: Illegal gathering

Last court decision: 10 days of public security detention and a fine of 500 yuan

WANG En

Date of birth: 28th October 1988

Place of residence: Xiali Town, Ye County, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organizing a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Ye County Detention Centre

Sister XU

Place of residence: Qimo County, Kurla City of Xinjiang

Date & Place of arrest: 15th March 2013, Qimo County, Kurla City of Xinjiang

Place of detention: Local detention center

Date of release: Police said they would release her after 15 days

Other information: The police also confiscated Christian calendars, hymnals, Bibles, speakers and other items. Police also seized a desktop computer tower and a notebook computer for further investigation.

YANG Lianbin

Date of birth: 19th November 1989

Place of Residence: Zhengzhou

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organizing a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Ye County Detention Centre

Alimujiang YIMITI (Christian ethnic Uyghur)

Date of birth: 10th June 1973

Place of residence: Tianshan District, Urumqi, Xinjiang

Date of Arrest: 12th January 2008 arrested and detained; 20th February 2008 formally arrested

Charges: Suspicion of inciting subversion of state power, leaking state secrets. Since 2002 engaging in activities of illegal religious infiltration, including preaching Christianity among the people of Uyghur ethnicity, distributing religious materials and converting to Christianity

Statement of the defendants: Working for a British-owned company (Jirehouse) and leading a house church ministry in Kashgar with his wife

Place of detention: Kashi Detention Center. 12th April 2010 moved to No. 3 Prison of Xinjiang in Urumqi

First court decision: 6th August 2009, Kashi District Intermediate Court secretly sentenced Yimiti to 15 years in prison for “illegally providing state secrets to foreign nationals”

Second court decision: 6th March 2010, the Higher People’s Court of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region upheld to ruling and depriving him of political rights for five years.

Third court decision: November 2010, the Higher People Court of Xinjiang accepted the appeal by Alimunjiang’s wife to retry the case of “disclosing top state secrets”.

Final court decision: February 2011, the Higher Court of Xinjiang upheld the ordinal sentence of 15 years.

Other information: 12th September 2008, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention ruled in its No. 28

document that Alimujiang's arrest and detention had been arbitrary.

ZHANG Mian

Date of birth: May 13, 1975

Place of residence: Daying Village, Rendian Town, Ye County, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2012

Charges: Organizing a cult to undermine law enforcement

Statement of the defendant: Attending a religious meeting

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Pingdingshan Detention Centre

Other information: She owns the residence where the group meets

ZHU Jinfeng

Age: 60 years

Place of residence: Urumqi

Date & Place of arrest: 23rd June 2013

Charges: Conducting illegal Christian activity

Statement of the defendants: Zhu attends house churches instead of state-sanctioned ones.

Last court decision: She was briefly detained and fined 200 yuan.

Other information: Zhu's home was raided by the local Public Security Bureau during a Bible study.

Catholics

TIAN Dalong and another priest

Age: In their 40's

Place of residence: Qinyuan City, Hebei Province

Date and Place of arrest: Early October

Statement of the defendants: Organized catechism classes

Place of detention: Police barracks in Baoding

Msgr. Cosma SHI Enxiang, underground bishop of Yixian (Hebei)

Date of birth: 1932

Date and Place of arrest: 13th April 2001 in Beijing

Charges: Unknown

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Msgr. Shi Enxiang has intermittently suffered long periods in prison and house arrest for many years. His current whereabouts is unknown.

Fr. CUI Tai, underground priest of the diocese of Xuanhua (Hebei)

Date and Place of arrest: He was taken away by staff of the Religious Affairs Bureau on 22nd June 2011

Charges: Unknown

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Fr. Cui disappeared while in police custody 22nd June 2011 after members of the government's Religious Affairs Bureau dragged him away. Since that time there has been no information on his whereabouts.

Fr. GAO Jiangping and another priest

Place of residence: Diocese of Suyian, Inner Mongolia

Date of Arrest: 31st January 2012

Charges: The Diocese of Suiyuan does not exist according to the Chinese government, as it is part of the illegal underground Catholic Church

Statement of the defendant: Incompatibility between the allegiance to the regime and his loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope

Fr. LIU Honggen, underground priest of the diocese of Baoding (Hebei)

Date and Place of arrest: 27th December 2006

Charges: He refused to join the Catholic Patriotic Association

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Prison of Qingyuan

Fr. Joseph LU Genjun, vicar general of the underground diocese of Baoding (Hebei)

Date and Place of arrest: Disappeared in police custody 17th February 2006

Charges: Unknown

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Fr. Lu has been detained intermittently for many years, including three years of "re-education through labour" after being accused of having conducted illegal missionary activities that undermine the social order (he would not join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*). He is presently missing.

Thaddeus MA Daqin (Bishop of Shanghai)

Charges: Resignation from the state-controlled *Catholic Patriotic Association*

Statement of the defendant: Incompatibility between the allegiance to the regime and his loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church and the CPAC

Place of detention: Since 7th July 2012 he has been under house arrest at the Sheshan Regional Seminary in a Shanghai suburb

Other information: Joseph Liu Yuanlong, a vice chair of the CCPA, confirmed on 12th December 2012 that the government-sanctioned Catholic bishops' conference in China had revoked the appointment of Thaddeus Ma Daqin as auxiliary bishop of Shanghai, saying he violated the rules for Episcopal ordinations. A statement released by the Vatican on 13th December 2012 stated that even legitimately established and Vatican-recognized bishops' conferences "do not have the power to name or approve a bishop, to revoke his mandate or to impose sanctions on him."

Fr. MA Wuyong, underground priest of the diocese of Baoding (Hebei)

Date and Place of arrest: August 2004, in the village of Suijiazhuang (Quyong County, Hebei)

Charges: He refused to join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*.

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Prison of Qingyuan

Other information: Fr. Ma and eight other priests had gathered to celebrate their first year of ordination. Police arrived, carried out a door to door search and placed them under arrest. Before the Chinese New Year 2006, Fr. Ma was temporarily released from prison. He was re-arrested a month later, after attending the funeral of a priest of Baoding, Fr. Chen Baidu.

Fr. SONG Wanjun

Age: 39 years

Place of residence: Qiaodong District, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 7th August 2013 in Qiaodong District, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province

Place of detention: First place of detention was Qiaodong District to Zhangbei County

Other information: Fr. Song had evaded several arrests in the past from the Chinese Public Security until his current arrest.

Fr. WANG Chengli, underground priest of the Diocese of Heze (Shandong)

Age: 50 years

Date and Place of arrest: 25th August 2011

Charges: He refused to join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*.

Last court decision: 2 ½ years of re-education through labor

Place of detention: First Dongming prison and then Jining concentration camp, over 150 miles from his county

Msgr. WU Qinjing, official bishop of the diocese of Zhouzhi (Shaanxi)

Date and Place of arrest: November 2007

Charges: He refused to join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Since November 2007 Msgr. Wu has been kept under house arrest in the minor seminary in Xian with limits on his activities. Bishop Wu was secretly ordained as a bishop of the official diocese of Zhouzhi, without the permission of the local *Catholic Patriotic Association*. For this reason, since his ordination was made public in 2006, the government restricted his activities, kidnapped him and forced him to memorize the "Regulations on Religious Affairs." He is forbidden to carry the Episcopal insignia or carry out any activities as a bishop.

Fr. ZHANG Jianlin, underground priest of the diocese of Xuanhua (Hebei)

Date and Place of arrest: He was taken away by the Religious Affairs Bureau on 22nd June 2011

Charges: Unknown

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: In July 2009, Fr. Zhang was taken by police and placed under house arrest in a courtyard attached to the building of a government office. He was given permission to receive visitors but was subjected to heavy physical and psychological tactics to force him to support the Council of Chinese Bishops and to join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*. After seven months of detention, he was released but closely monitored and forbidden to practice his ministry.

Msgr. James Su ZHIMIN, underground bishop of Baoding (Hebei)

Date of birth: 1932

Place of residence: Baoding, Hebei Province

Date of arrest: 8th October 1997

Charges: Unknown

Court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: According to AsiaNews, Msgr. Zhimin remains in police custody. Zhimin has been considered for many years a "counter-revolutionary," since he has refused since the 1950s to join the *Catholic Patriotic Association*. In all, he has already spent 40 years in captivity.

Tibetan Buddhists

Migyurg GYATSO, Choedar DARGYE and Gedun THOGPHEL

Place of residence: Jampa, Choedar and Gedun are monks from Khangmar monastery

Date & Place of arrest: January 2003 in Marthang (Hongyuan), Sichuan

Charges: Unknown

Statement of the defendants: Possessing photos of the Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama, conducting prayers for the Dalai Lama while he was ill and possessing a painting of the Tibetan flag

Place of detention: Unknown

Last court decision: 29th August 2003, Migyurg, Choedar and Gedun were sentenced to 12 years in prison

Gendun Choekyi NYIMA and his parents

Date of birth: 25th April 1989

Place of residence: Lhari County, Tibet

Date of Arrest: 17th May 1995, Gendun Choekyi Nyima and his parents disappeared

Charges: Usurping the title of reincarnation of the 10th Panchen Lama which was granted to him by the Dalai Lama, an “illegal and invalid” decision

Statement of the defendants: Named by the Dalai Lama as the 11th incarnation of the Panchen Lama of Tibet

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: He was kidnapped by Chinese authorities three days after he was announced to be the reincarnation of the 10th Panchen Lama and has not been seen in public since 17th May 1995. Another Panchen Lama has been chosen by the Chinese government, but he has not been approved by the Buddhist community faithful to the Dalai Lama.

Runggye ADAK

Age: 57 years old

Place of residence: Nomad from Lithang in eastern Tibet

Date & Place of arrest: 1st August 2007 at the Lithang Horse Racing Festival in Tibet

Charges: Provocation to subvert state power

Statement of the defendants: Addressing the gathered crowd by saying: “If we cannot invite the Dalai Lama home, we will not have freedom of religion and happiness in Tibet” and calling for the release of the Panchen Lama and Tenzin Delek Rinpoche

Place of detention: Unknown

Last court decision: 20th November 2007, sentenced to eight years in prison

BHUMO

Date of arrest: 14th May 2008 in Ganzi (Kardze) county, Ganzi TAP, Sichuan province

Charges: Unknown

Statement of the defendant: Protest against the demands that nuns of Pangri Nunnery denounce the Dalai Lama

Last court decision: Nine years in detention

Other information: On 14th May 2008, more than 80 nuns in Ganzi held a demonstration against an official campaign to impose "patriotic re-education" on their convents in which they were required to denounce the Dalai Lama.

Tezin DELEK (Rinpoche)

Birth Year: 1949

Date & Place of arrest: 7th April 2002, Yajiang County, Garze Prefecture

Charges: Mastermind behind the bombing in Tianfu Square in Chengdu, “suspicion of inciting secession,” “perpetrating the bombing in Chengdu,” and “illegal possession of firearms and ammunition”

First court decision: 2nd December 2002, Intermediate People's Court of Garze, sentenced to death with two years of execution adjournment

Final court decision: 2005, sentence commuted to life imprisonment

Other information: In 1983, he was designated as the reincarnation of Adengpengcuo, the Gexi Lama of Aotuo Temple of Yajiang County. He is a supporter of the Dalai Lama and is a monk of high reputation in the Tibetan region and the exiled Tibetan community in India. In December 2009, over 30,000 Tibetans signed and finger printed a petition calling on the central government to retry his case.

Sonam LHASTO

Age: 40 years old

Date of arrest: 14th May 2008 in Ganzi (Kardze) county, Ganzi TAP, Sichuan province

Charges: Unknown

Statement of the defendant: Protest against the demands that nuns of Pangri Nunnery denounce the Dalai Lama

Last court decision: 10 years in detention (in 2008 or 2009)

Place of detention: Mianyang Prison

Other information: On 14th May 2008, more than 80 nuns in Ganzi held a demonstration against an official campaign to impose "patriotic re-education" on their convents, in which they were required to denounce the Dalai Lama.

Phurbu TSERING

Age: 56 years old

Date of arrest: 18th May 2008 in Ganzi (Kardze) county, Ganzi TAP, Sichuan province

Charges: Illegal possession of ammunition and embezzlement

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges.

Last court decision: 23rd December 2009, sentenced to 8 years and 6 months in prison

Place of detention: Meyang Prison, Sichuan Province

Other information: Phurbu Tsering is regarded as a reincarnated Tibetan Buddhist teacher and as a living Buddha. He was heading the Pangri and Puruna Nunneries. He was arrested on 14th May 2008 during the nuns' demonstration in Ganzi against an official campaign to impose "patriotic re-education" on their convents in which they were required to denounce the Dalai Lama.

Muslims

20 Uyghurs

Date & Place of arrest: 2013 (before the 27th of March), East Turkestan

Charges: Separatism, religious extremism and spreading propaganda

Statement of defendants: Listened to Radio Free Asia and used the internet to discuss the importance of religious and cultural freedom

Court decision: Courts in Kashgar and Bayingol found them guilty with sentences of up to life in prison

Sadique KU'ERBAN and 8 other Uyghur believers

Charges: Involvement with illegal religious schools or religious instruction (illegal for not being registered under the state-controlled *Chinese Islamic Association*). More specifically, Sadique Ku'erban was accused of "extremist religious thought and inciting others to wage a holy war"

Statement of the defendants: Sadique Ku'erban was running a network of home schools in four different parts of Xinjiang over 10 years that taught 86 students, including 16 under 14 years of age.

First court decision: 31st May 2012, sentenced to prison terms ranging from 6 to 15 years in three separate public hearings in Kashgar

Mewlanjan AHMET, Dolkun ERKIN, Omerjan MEMET and Mutelip ROZI, Kurbanjan SEMET

Place of residence: Ghulja and Nelka counties and Ghulja city, Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture

Date and Place of arrest: Between March-June 2008

Charges: “Splitting the state” by providing religious education to Uyghur children

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Article 103 of the Criminal Law

Seydehmet AWUT, Abdujilil ABDUGHUPUR, Abdulitip ABLIMIT, Erkin EMET

Place of residence: Ghulja and Nelka counties and Ghulja city, Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture

Date and Place of arrest: Between March and June 2008

Charges: “Splitting the state”

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Article 103 of the Criminal Law

Last court decision: 24th March 2009: Awut (10 years), Emet (10 years), Abdughupur (6 years), Ablimit (6 years)

Place of detention: Ghulja PSB detention center

Last court decision: Ahmet (10 years), Semet (10 years), Erkin (10 years), Memet (10 years), Rozi (6 years)

Place of detention: Ili PSB detention center

Qahar MENSUR and Muhemmed TURSUN (Father and son)

Place of residence: Shihezi municipality

Date and Place of arrest: 1st October 2010

Charges: Storing and distributing illegal religious publications

Last court decision: 3 years in prison

Memet REHIM and Memet SIDIQ (Father and son)

Date and Place of arrest: March 2011

Statement of the defendants: They made electronic Qurans which they had stored in their home and would give to acquaintances as gifts

Place of detention: Shihezi

Yusufjan and Memetjan

Age: 27 and 24 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 10th May 2009 in Urumqi

Charges: Holding an illegal gathering

Qurbanjan ABDUSEMET

Charges: Separatism

Statement of the defendants: Selling books and videos about Islam

Last court decision: 10 years in prison

Ail ABLAT

Place of residence: Yopurgha county, Kashgar prefecture

Charges: Separatism

Last court decision: 16th January 2003, 10 years in prison

Akemanjiang

Place of residence: Aqsu district

Date and Place of arrest: September 2008

Statement of the defendants: Akemanjiang did not follow government policy requiring restaurants to stay open during the month of Ramadan

Place of detention: Unknown

Perhatjan

Place of residence: Aqsu district

Date and Place of arrest: September 2008

Statement of the defendants: Urged restaurant owners to challenge government policy requiring restaurants to stay open during the month of Ramadan

Place of detention: Unknown

Adil QARIM

Date and Place of arrest: 10th August 2008, Kucha county, Aqsu district

Last court decision: Life in prison

Place of detention: Unknown

Other information: Imam of a local mosque where an attacker had gone to pray; Qarim had no connection to the attacks.

Merdan SEYITAKHUN

Age: 42 years

Date and Place of arrest: 14th April 2008

Charges: Acts of separatism by providing illegal religious education to Uyghur children

Last court decision: Life in prison

Falun Gong

LI Zhirong, LIU Fengru, LU Jie and ZHANG Xuerong,

Date and Place of arrest: 24th August 2013

Place of residence: Xingcheng, Liaoning Province

LI Yanling, Lihua and LIN Fuhua and ZHANG Xiuping

Place of residence: Beijing

Date and Place of arrest: 17th May 2013

Place of detention: Liu Village Police Station

Other information: Zhang Xiuping's niece is Lihua

LIU Jingyuan, ZHAO Yunxia and LIU Fengling

Date and Place of arrest: 5th September 2013

Place of residence: Taiyuan city, Shanxi Province

Statement of the defendants: Spoke to people in village about the persecution of Falun gong

Place of detention: Zhao and Liu Yunxia are at Taiyuan No. 1 Detention Center, Liu Jingyuan is at Yangqu County Detention Center.

YE Baofu, YANG Mingqing, & YE Mao (Family)

Place of residence: Kunming City

Date and Place of arrest: 4th May 2012

Last court decision: Ye Baofu was sentenced six years in prison, Yang Mingqing and Ye Mao were sentenced four years in prison.

Other information: Ye Baofu and Yang Mingqing are married, Ye Mao is their daughter.

ZHOU Yourong, ZHOU Shijie and XIE Qin

Place of residence: Chongqing

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: They hung informational banners on a highway.

Place of detention: Zhou Yourong and Xie are at Qianzhugou Reeducation Center; Zhou Shijie is at Fusheng Detention Center.

CHEN Binglan and QIAN Yanping

Place of residence: Chongqing

Date and Place of arrest: 29th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Speaking to people about Falun Gong

Place of detention: Tongnan County Detention Center

CHEN Sulan and MENG Xiangfen

Place of residence: Anshan City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 7th October 2013

Statement of the defendants: Distributing informational materials about Falun Gong

Place of detention: Yuemingshan Detention Center

Other information: Ms. Chen's husband was also arrested, but released that evening.

CUI Yuanqing & YIN Wenqing

Age: In their seventies

Place of residence: Anshan City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 20th September 2012

Statement of the defendants: Posting information about Falun Gong

Last court decision: Cui was sentenced three and a half years in prison; Yin was sentenced three years in prison.

FAN Limin & FU Li

Age/ Date of birth: Fu is Fan's daughter

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 26th August 2013 (Fan), 27th August (Fu)

Place of detention: District Detention Center (Fan), Pudong Detention Center (Fu)

GONG Baoying and LI Cuier

Date & Place of arrest: 1st December 2012 in Beijing

Statement of the defendants: Explaining the teachings about Falun Gong to people

Place of detention: Li Cuieris being held in the Longfeng Detention Center. The whereabouts of Ms. Gong are unknown.

HE Xia and Yaning

Place of residence: Li County, Hebei Province in Liwu town

Date and Place of arrest: 17th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: They were speaking to people about Falun Gong in Wangzhuang Village, Liwu Town.

Place of detention: Li County Detention Center

LU Mengjun and LIU Liyan

Place of residence: Xiangtan City, Hunan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2013 in Shebu Town

Statement of the defendants: Distributing materials about the persecution of Falun Gong

Place of detention: Xiangtan Detention Center

LUO Zhenggui and ZHANG Ziqin

Age: Luo is 78 years old

Place of residence: Luzhou, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 10th November 2011

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Luo at Leshan Wumaping Prison

Other information: Luo and Zhang are married.

QIAN and YANG

Place of residence: Wuhan City, Hubei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 12th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: They went to Shiyang City to speak to people about Falun Gong.

Place of detention: Unknown

SUN Guiping and HAN Caixia

Date & Place of arrest: 4th December 2012 in Tianjin

Statement of the defendant: Speaking to people about Falun Gong in a market

Place of detention: Banqiao Town Police Station

Duration of detention: Unknown

XIAO Gao and HU Xiuyan

Place of residence: Shenyang, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 30th August 2013

Place of detention: Zhujianglu Police Station (Xiao)

ZHOU Chenghao and ZHOU Huijuan (Siblings)

Age: 43 and 50 years

Date and Place of arrest: 12th September 2012 in Shanghai

Last court decision: Four years in prison, three and a half

AN Yunhui

Place of residence: Shouguang, Shandong Province

Date and Place of arrest: 13th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Telling people about Falun Gong

BAI Gendi

Date of birth: 21st September 1951

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 10th September 2012

Last court decision: Six and a half years in prison

Other information: Ms. Bai has been arrested six times and detained for a total of 10 years and 2 months.

CAO Weibo

Place of residence: Panjin, Liaoning Province

Last court decision: 30th November 2012, nine years in prison

CAO Xiaohua

Place of residence: Changchun City, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 3rd June 2013

Duration of the detention: Changchun No.2 Detention Center

CHEN Guilan

Age: 61 years

Place of residence: Chaoyang City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 3rd March 2013

Statement of the defendants: Distributing Shen Yun Performing Arts DVDs near a local market

Last court decision: Seven years in prison

CHEN Shulan

Place of residence: Beijing

Date and Place of arrest: 17th May 2013

Last court decision: Four years in prison
Place of detention: Liu Village Police Station

CHEN Xiangren

Age/ Date of birth: 67 years old
Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province
Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012
Last court decision: Five years in prison

CHEN Yan

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013
Last court decision: Five years in prison
Place of detention: Harbin Number Two (Yaziquan)

CHENG Yuzhong

Place of residence: Dunhua, Jilin Province
Date and Place of arrest: 6th September 2013

DING Fadong

Age: 51 years old
Place of residence: Wuzhong City, Ningxia Autonomous Region
Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

DING Kuangsong

Place of residence: Dongying, Shandong Province
Date and Place of arrest: 6th September 2013

Place of detention: Shencaipei School Brainwashing Center

DING Liyan

Age: 51 years

Place of residence: Tongliao City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Date and Place of arrest: 19th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Ding bought a train ticket with bills that had information about Falun Gong written on them

Other information: Her family was able to bail her out later that day.

DU Qingxiu

Place of residence: Lingyuan City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 30th October 2012

Statement of the defendants: Sent messages about Falun Gong with her cell phone to agents of the judiciary division

Last court decision: Six years in prison

FEI Shuqin

Age/ Date of birth: 67 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Thirteen years in prison

Place of detention: Harbin Number Two (Yaziquan) Detention Center

FENG Xiaoling

Place of residence: Beijing

Date and Place of arrest: 17th May 2013

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Liu Village Police Station

FU Ying

Place of residence: Shenyang, Liaoning Province
Date and Place of arrest: 30th August 2013
Place of detention: Liaohe Police Station

GAO Mingxing

Place of residence: Anshan City, Liaoning Province
Date and Place of arrest: 1st August 2007
Statement of the defendants: He was replacing regular TV programming with videos that explained Falun Gong.
Last court decision: 12 years in prison
Place of detention: Shenyang No. 1 Prison

GAO Qinmei

Date and Place of arrest: 22nd October 2012
Last court decision: Four years in prison
Place of detention: Unknown

GAO Yuanzhuang

Place of residence: Suihua City, Heilongjiang Province
Date and Place of arrest: 10th September 2013
Last court decision: Three years in prison

GE Chunling

Place of residence: Jinzhou City, Liaoning Province
Date and Place of arrest: November 2012 in Taiyuan City, Shanxi Province
Statement of the defendants: Distributing materials about Falun Gong

Last court decision: Five years in prison
Place of detention: Taiyuan Detention Center

GU Daping

Age: 50 years old
Place of residence: Handan City, Hebei Province
Date and Place of arrest: 30th May 2013
Statement of the defendants: Distributing CDs containing software to bypass internet blockade
Place of detention: Police department

GUO Yingjie

Age/ Date of birth: 54 years old
Date and Place of arrest: 31st July 2012
Statement of the defendants: Making phones calls about Falun Gong to the mayor
Last court decision: Five years in prison
Place of detention: Heizuizi Women's Prison

WANG Guoxiang

Date and Place of arrest: 1st July 2012
Last court decision: Five years in prison.
Place of detention: Gongzhuling Prison (22nd March 2013)

HAO Funing

Place of residence: Beijing
Date and Place of arrest: 17th May 2013
Last court decision: Four years in prison
Place of detention: Liu Village Police Station

HAO Pengzhe

Age: 50+ years old

Place of residence: Renqiu City, Hebei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 24th September 2013

Place of detention: Huabeiyoutianshuidian Detention Center

HAN Zhenkun

Age: 45 years old

Place of residence: Kunming City, Yunnan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Owning materials about Falun gong

Place of detention: Xishan District Detention

HE Xunming

Age/ Date of birth: 57 years old

Place of residence: Jinan City, Shandong Province

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Telling people about Falun Gong

Place of detention: Jinan Detention Center

HONG Xiuqing

Place of residence: Songyuan City, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Speaking to people about Falun Gong

Place of detention: Qianguo County Detention Center

HU Rongying

Age: 60+ years

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province
Date and Place of arrest: October 2012
Statement of the defendants: Told people about Falun Gong and gave people DVDs about the practice.
Last court decision: Four years in prison
Place of detention: Jiyuan Detention Center

HU Zhongtian

Age: 30+ years
Place of residence: Shanghai
Date and Place of arrest: 2nd February 2012
Statement of the defendants: Practicing Falun Gong
Last court decision: Three and a half years in prison
Place of detention: Shanghai Reformatory

HUANG Xueying

Age: 45 years
Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province
Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012
Last court decision: Five years in prison

JIA Minglan

Age: 50+ years
Date and Place of arrest: 21st September 2013
Statement of the defendants: Spoke to people about the persecution of Falun Gong

JIANG Lianying

Age: 69 years
Place of residence: Tuanshanzi Township

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Three years in prison

JIANG Shuli

Place of residence: Kaifeng City, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 8th September 2012

Last court decision: Five years in prison

Place of detention: Xinxiang City Women's Prison

JIANG Yulan

Place of residence: Yushu, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 18th August 2013

Place of detention: Yushu Detention Center

LI Chang

Date of birth: 1940

Date and Place of arrest: 26th December 1999

Charges: Using 'the cult' to obstruct law enforcement, causing the deaths of people and obtaining state secrets in an illegal way

Last court decision: 18 years in prison

Place of detention: Tianjin Prison in Tianjin City

Other information: Li compiled and published Li Hongzhi's first Falun Gong book.

LI Dapeng

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Jiamusi City Prison

LI Li

Date and Place of arrest: July 2011

Last court decision: Two and a half years

Place of detention: Beijing Women's Forced Labor Camp,
then moved to an unknown location

LI Meizhen

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 2nd August 2012

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Xuhui Detention Center

LI Shuzhi

Place of residence: Muleng, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 30th August 2013

Duration of the detention: Mudanjiang Reeducation Center

LI Tieying

Place of residence: Liaoyuan, Jilin Province

Last court decision: November 7, 2010 – Duration unknown

Place of detention: Shilingzi Prison

Other information: Wife Sun Liping also arrested and children
sent to orphanage

LI Wenbo

Age: 43 years

Place of residence: Gucheng Village, Kunyang, Jinning County, Kunming City, Yunnan Province

Last court decision: 12th October 2009, Kunming City Court

Date and Place of arrest: 11th May 2009 (Last known arrest)

Place of detention: Yunnan Province First Prison (4th March 2010)

LI Xuehua

Place of residence: Mudanjiang City, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 25th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Speaking to people about the persecution of Falun Gong

Place of detention: Mudanjiang Reeducation Center

LI Yuping

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province

Last court decision: Four years in prison, 13th August 2013

LI Zongru

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province

Last court decision: Three years in prison with three and a half years in prison

LIANG Jiantian

Date and Place of arrest: 3rd November 2000

Charges: Illegal business activity and producing obscene material

Statement of the defendants: Printing and selling Falun Gong books

Last court decision: Life imprisonment

Place of detention: Panyu Prison

Duration of the detention:

LIAO Tianbi

Place of residence: Chongqing

Date and Place of arrest: 16th September 2013

Place of detention: Qianzhugou Reeducation Center

LIAO Xuekang

Age/ Date of birth: 69 years old

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Five years in prison

LIU Dan

Age/ Date of birth: 33 years

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Two and a half years in prison

LIU Deyu

Age: 57 years

Place of residence: Jingmen City, Hubei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 7th September 2009, September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Telling people about Falun Gong

First court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Fanjiatai Prison, then moved to an unknown location

Date of release: August 2013

LIU Fazhi

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 19th August 2013

Duration of the detention: Jiyuan City Detention Center

Other information: His wife Wang Rui was also arrested.

LIU Fengcheng

Age: 43 years

Place of residence: Yilan County, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Five years in prison

LIU Hancui

Age: 82 years

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Five years in prison

LIU Jinming

Place of residence: Pingxiang City, Jiangxi Province

Date and Place of arrest: 16th October 2012

Last court decision: Two years in prison, three years probation

Place of detention: Lianhua County Detention Center

Other information: 20,000 yuan extorted by the Office of Justice to get released on parole. His wife Rong Aimei was also arrested.

LIU Jingjun

Date of birth: 1972

Place of residence: Longshan District of Liaoyuan, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st July 2012

Last court decision: 11 years in prison

Place of detention: Liaoyuan Detention Center

LIU Qing

Place of residence: Panjin City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 13th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Liu went to the countryside to speak to people about Falun Gong

Place of detention: Panjin City No. 3 Detention Center

LIU Shaoming

Age: 59 years

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Two years in prison

LU Bagen

Age: 63 years

Place of residence: Zhenjiang City, Jiangsu Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st August 2013

Statement of the defendants: Handing out informational materials about Falun Gong

Last court decision: Seven years in prison

LU Fengyun

Age: 67 years

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Six years in prison

Duration of the detention: Harbin Number Two (Yaziquan) Detention Center

LU Hongqun

Age: 36 years

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Three years in prison, five years suspension

LUO Xinping

Place of residence: Yinchuan City in Ningxia Autonomous Region

Date and Place of arrest: 16th February 2013 at Wuzhong City

Last court decision: Fined 2,000 Yuan for release

Place of detention: Wuzhi City Detention Center

Duration of the detention: More than two weeks

LUO Yanjie

Place of residence: Shuangcheng, Heilongjiang Province

Last court decision: 13 years in prison

Place of detention: Heilongjiang Women's Prison

Duration of the detention: 10 days in detention

MA Guiyue

Age: 50+ years

Place of residence: Hefei City, Anhui Province

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Speaking to people about Falun Gong

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Anhui Province Suzhou Prison

MENG Fanying

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Five years in prison

MENG Xiuli

Place of residence: Banqiao Town

Date of Arrest: 4th November 2012

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Duration of detention: Meng was still incarcerated at the end June 2013

Other information: Ms. MengXiuli and her three children drove to visit relatives on the morning of 4th November 2012. They were arrested in transit by police for posting information about the persecution of Falun Gong. They were taken to the Fuping County Domestic Security Division. Their car, valued at 120,000 Yuan, was taken away. Their Falun Gong books, computer, printer, DVD burner, portable hard drive and other personal belongings worth over 20,000 Yuan were also confiscated from their home. On 26th February 2013 Ms.Meng's lawyer prepared documents applying for her release on bail but no news has come back regarding the application.

MO Huiping

Age: 37 years

Place of residence: Wuzhong City, Ningxia Autonomous Region

Date and Place of arrest: 16th February 2013 in Wuzhong City

Last court decision: Four years in prison

MO Zhikui

Age: 56 years

Place of residence: Yilan Town, Yilan County, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Twelve years in prison

Place of detention: Jiamusi City Prison

PENG Yujuan

Place of residence: Hefei City, Anhui Province

Date and Place of arrest: 22nd August 2010

Last court decision: Seven years in prison

Place of detention: Hefei Second Detention Center

Other information: Her husband Wang Jianying was also arrested.

PENG Yueying

Age: 57 years old

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Two years in prison, three years suspension

QIN Xiaomin

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province

Last court decision: 13th August 2013, three years in prison

RONG Aimei

Place of residence: Pingxiang City, Jiangxi Province

Date and Place of arrest: 16th October 2012

Last court decision: Three years in prison, four years probation

Place of detention: Lianhua County Detention Center

Other information: 20,000 yuan extorted by the Office of Justice to get released on parole. Her husband Liu Jinming was also arrested.

RONG Huijun

Place of residence: Shanghai
Date and Place of arrest: 4th June 2010
Last court decision: Four years in prison

SHU Anqing

Age: 40 years old
Place of residence: Luzhou, Sichuan Province
Date and Place of arrest: 10th November 2011
Last court decision: Three and half years in prison
Place of detention: Gulin Detention Center

SONG Xuecun

Place of residence: Dalian, Liaoning Province
Date and Place of arrest: 30th August 2013
Place of detention: Unknown

SONG Yusheng

Place of residence: Jimo City, Shandong Province
Date and Place of arrest: 11th August 2013
Statement of the defendants: Encouraged people to denounce their association with the Communist Party
Last court decision: Three and a half years
Place of detention: Jinan City Prison
Other information: Jimo Court used last year's file as an excuse to deliver the sentence without a trial. Song was arrested

last year and later released on bail for talking about the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.

SU Kun

Place of residence: Shibo District of Yunnan

Date and Place of arrest: 4th May 2012

Last court decision: Six years in prison

Other information: Wife Zhang Xiaodan was also arrested.

SUN Liping

Place of residence: Liaoyuan City, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st July 2012

Last court decision: Five years in prison

Place of detention: Liaoyuan Detention Center

Other information: Husband Li Tieying also arrested, two children sent to orphanage

SUN Wenfu

Place of residence: Shahezi Village, Fangzheng County

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Five years in prison

Place of detention: Jiamusi City Prison

SUN Yuqiang

Age: 70 years old

Place of residence: Wanghaisi Village, Cang County, Hebei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 31st December 2012

Statement of the defendants: Distributed brochures at Dabaitou Market

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Jidong Prison

SUN Zerong

Place of residence: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 5th May 2013 and September 24th 2013

Place of detention: Detention center in Erzhiyou

Duration of the detention: 15 days

TONG Xiaodi

Place of residence: Wuwei County, Anhui Province

Date and Place of arrest: November 2012

Last court decision: Three years in prison, with a five year suspension

Place of detention: Wuhu Detention Center

WANG Anyu

Place of residence: Chongqing

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

WANG Fengwu

Age: 62 years

Place of residence: Beijing

Date and Place of arrest: 24th July 2013 in Shijingshan

Statement of the defendant: Distributing materials about the persecution of Falun Gong

Place of detention: Beijing No.1 Detention Center

WANG Guoxiang

Place of residence: Changchun
Date and Place of arrest: 1st July 2012
Last court decision: Five years in prison
Place of detention: Gongzhuling Prison
Other information: Subjected to torture which caused cerebral haemorrhaging

WANG Haohua

Place of residence: Huixian City, Henan Province
Date and Place of arrest: 29th August 2013
Place of detention: Guangzhi Town Police Station

WANG Jian

Place of residence: Shahekou, Dalian
Date and Place of arrest: 6th July 2012 in Dalian
Statement of the defendants: Installing a satellite TV receiver
Last court decision: Seven years in prison

WANG Jianying

Place of residence: Hefei City, Anhui Province
Date and Place of arrest: 22nd August 2010
Last court decision: Seven years in prison
Place of detention: Hefei Second Detention Center
Other information: His wife Peng Yujuan was also arrested.

WANG Rui

Place of Residence: Jiyuan, Henan Province
Date and Place of arrest: 19th August 2012
Last court decision: Three years in prison with a four year suspension

Place of detention: Jiyuan City Detention Center

Other information: Her husband Liu Fazhi was also arrested.

WANG Suying

Age: 67 years

Place of residence: Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Date and Place of arrest: 24th September 2013

Place of detention: Yuanbaoshan District Detention Center

WANG Xiaoqun

Place of residence: Changde City, Hunan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 23rd September 2013

Statement of the defendants: Speaking to people about the persecution of Falun Gong

Place of detention: Baiheshan Detention Center

WANG Zhiwen

Date of birth: 1949

Date and Place of arrest: 20th July 1999

Charges: Illegal acquisition of state secrets, “using superstitious sects [cults] to undermine the implementation of the law” and causing human deaths by organizing and using a cult

Statement of the defendant: Organizing a peaceful protest on 25th April 1999 outside Zhongnanhai, the Beijing headquarters for senior Party officials

Last court decision: On 26th December 1999, the Beijing Number One Intermediate People’s Court sentenced Wang to 16 years in prison and four years’ deprivation of political rights.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 300 of the Criminal Law

Place of detention: Tianjin Prison in Tianjin City

Other information: His daughter, Danielle Wang, only received two letters in the last eight years. He has been tortured in an attempt to make him renounce his belief in Falun Gong.

WEI Chunrong

Place of residence: Huanan, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 27th August 2013

Place of detention: Qingdao Detention Center

WU Likun

Age: 63 years

Place of residence: Shenyang City, Liaoning Province

Date and Place of arrest: 20th September 2013 at Beiling Park

Statement of the defendants: Posting informational materials about the persecution of Falun Gong

XIA Hongqin

Place of residence: Zhucheng City, Shandong Province

Date and Place of arrest: 7th September 2013

Statement of the defendants: She had Shen Yun Performing Arts DVDs with her when delivering goods in a private vehicle

Place of detention: A reeducation center

XIAO Xizhen

Place of residence: Yichun City, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 27th May 2013

Place of detention: Cuiluan Detention Center

XU Feng

Place of residence: Yilan County, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Three years in prison

Place of detention: Jiamusi City Prison

XU Wenlong

Age/ Date of birth: 25 years

Place of residence: Mudanjiang City, Heilongjiang Province

Last court decision: Six and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Tailai Prison

YAN Qinghua

Place of residence: Pingxiang City, Jiangxi Province

Last court decision: Two years in prison, three years of probation given on 24th January 2013

Other information: The local Justice Office demanded 20,000 yuan to execute the sentence outside of the prison.

YANG Lingfu

Place of residence: Wuhan City, Hubei Province

Date and Place of arrest: 24th September 2013

YANG Yanqin

Place of residence: Pingliang City, Gansu Province

Date and Place of arrest: 29th September 2013

Place of detention: Zhuanglang County Detention Center

Duration of the detention: 15 days

YAO Yuhua

Date of birth: 23rd October 1954

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 10th September 2012

Last court decision: Six years in prison

Other information: Police repeatedly came to harass her at home and at work, which caused her to lose her job.

YOU Haiping

Place of residence: Ningxia Antonymous Region

Date and Place of arrest: 15th September 2013

YU Changxin

Date of birth: 1925

Date and Place of arrest: July 1, 1999

Charges: Using the cult to obstruct justice

Last court decision: 17 years in prison

Place of detention: Air Force Detention Center in Beijing

YUAN Hongying

Age: 59 years

Place of residence: Qiqihar, Heilongjiang Province

Date and Place of arrest: 9th May 2012 in Shanghai

Last court decision: Three and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Hongkou District Detention Center

YUAN Xiaolan

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: January 19, 2013

Statement of the defendants: Yuan was putting up posters at the intersection of South Suzhou Road and Xinqiao Road in the Jiangti District

Last court decision: Five years in prison

ZHANG Guofen

Age: 75 years

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Four years in prison

ZHANG Huijuan

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Twelve years in prison

ZHANG Jinku

Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013

Last court decision: Five years in prison

Place of detention: Jiamusi City Prison

ZHANG Xiaodan

Place of residence: Shibo District of Yunnan

Date and Place of arrest: 4th May 2012

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Other information: Her husband Su Kun was also arrested.

ZHANG Xiaoming

Age: 56 years old

Place of residence: Renshou County, Sichuan Province

Date and Place of arrest: 1st September 2012

Last court decision: Two years in prison

ZHANG Xiaoying

Place of residence: Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 19th January 2013

Statement of the defendants: Zhang was putting up posters at the intersection of South Suzhou Road and Xinqiao Road in the Jiangti District

Last court decision: Four years in prison

ZHANG Xinghe

Place of residence: Tai'an City, Shandong Province

Date and Place of arrest: 28th December 2012

Statement of the defendants: Distributing calendars

Last court decision: Four years in prison

ZHANG Yi

Age: 35 years

Place of residence: Putuo District, Shanghai

Date and Place of arrest: 1st February 2012

Statement of the defendants: Practicing Falun Gong

Last court decision: Four and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Shanghai Reformatory

ZHAO Xian

Place of residence: Nongan County, Jilin Province

Date and Place of arrest: 7th October 2013

Place of detention: Nongan County

ZHOU Shumei

Age/ Date of birth: 55 years

Place of residence: Shanghai
Date and Place of arrest: 7th February 2013
Last court decision: Four years in prison
Place of detention: Shanghai Women's Prison

ZHU Xiaodong

Place of residence: Jinan City, Shandong Province
Date and Place of arrest: 27th August 2013
Place of detention: Zhangzhuang Detention Center
Duration of the detention: 15 days in detention

ZUO Zhenqi

Place of residence: Yilan County, Heilongjiang Province
Date and Place of arrest: 29th March 2013
Last court decision: Six years in prison

ERITREA

Protestants

Mass arrests

Several mass arrests of religious leaders and believers took place in Western Eritea on 17th January (20 cases), 27th February (45 cases) and 5th of March (80 cases).

40 believers Kale-Hiwet and Mulu-Wengel Evangelical Churches

Date of arrest: November 2010

Charges: Engaging in illegal religious activities

Date of release: Two of the women were released in March 2012 prior to giving birth; all others remained in detention.

Other information: Current status of other persons unknown

35 believers belonging to a Pentecostal church

Date of arrest: 3rd July 2012

Other information: Current status unknown

Dr. Kiflu GEBREMESKEL

Date & Place of arrest: 23rd May 2004

Statement of the defendant: Senior pastor of Southwest Full Gospel Church

Other information: Current status unknown

Haile NAYZGI

Date & Place of arrest: 23rd May 2004

Charges: Unknown

Statement of the defendant: Leader of Eritrea's Full Gospel Church

Other information: Current status unknown

Orthodox

Patriarch Abune ANTONIOS

Date of birth: 12th July 1927

Statement of the defendants: Protested the interference of the Eritrean Department of Religious Affairs in his church's affairs

First court decision: 2006, sentenced to house arrest

Place of detention: House arrest

Other information: He has been prevented from communicating with the outside world and reportedly denied medical care. Current status unknown

Jehovah's Witnesses

52 Jehovah's Witnesses in prison

At last report, 52 of Jehovah's Witnesses, both men and women, are imprisoned in harsh conditions. Though none have been formally charged or tried, they are detained for conscientious objection, for religious activity or for undisclosed reasons.

C.O.= Conscientious Objection

UNK = Unknown

Name	Age	Sex	Prison	Date Arrested	Reason
PaulosEyassu	39	M	Sawa Camp	24/8/94	C.O.
IsaacMogos	36	M	Sawa Camp	24/8/94	C.O.
NegedeTeklemariam	38	M	Sawa Camp	24/8/94	C.O.
AronAbraha	38	M	Sawa Camp	9/5/01	C.O.
MussieFessehay	40	M	Sawa Camp	6/03	C.O.
AmbakomTsegezab	36	M	Sawa Camp	2/04	C.O.
BemnetFessehay	41	M	Sawa Camp	2/05	C.O.
HenokGhebru	28	M	Sawa Camp	2/05	C.O.
WoredeKiros	55	M	Sawa Camp	4/505	Religious activity
YonathanYonas	26	M	Sawa Camp	12/11/05	Religious activity
KibreabFessehay	34	M	Sawa Camp	27/12/05	C.O.
Bereket AbrahaOqbagabir	44	M	Sawa Camp	1/1/06	C.O.
Yosief Fessehay	23	M	Sawa Camp	2007	C.O.
MogosGebremeskel	66	M	Adi-Abieto	3/7/08	UNK
BereketAbraha	65	M	Meitir Camp	8/7/08	UNK
GoitomGebrekristos	76	M	Meitir Camp	11/7/08	UNK
Ermias Ashgedom	22	M	Meitir Camp	11/7/08	UNK

Habtemichael Mekonen	71	M	Meitir Camp	17/7/08	UNK
Tesfai Teklemariam	59	M	Meitir Camp	5/8/08	UNK
Goitom Aradom	68	M	Meitir Camp	8/8/08	UNK
Habtemichael Tesfamariam	64	M	Meitir Camp	8/8/08	UNK
Tewoldemedhn Habtezion	53	M	Meitir Camp	9/8/08	UNK
Ghebrehiwet Ghebremichael	68	M	Meitir Camp	22/8/08	UNK
TeferiBeyene	71	M	Meitir Camp	23/9/08	UNK
Beyene Abraham	60	M	Meitir Camp	23/10/08	UNK
Asfaha Haile	78	M	Meitir Camp	2/12/08	UNK
Semere Negusse	75	M	Meitir Camp	22/12/08	UNK
Muse Paulos	67	M	Meitir Camp	23/12/08	UNK
Tsehaye Leghessa	73	M	Meitir Camp	23/12/08	UNK
Tsegezeab Tesfazghi	63	M	Meitir Camp	23/12/08	UNK
Tsehaye Tesfamariam	71	M	Meitir Camp	5/1/09	UNK
Yoab.Tecle	61	M	Meitir Camp	23/4/09	Rearrested
Yoel Tsegezab	36	M	Meitir Camp	26/8/08	C.O.
Nehemiah Hagos	26	M	Meitir Camp	26/8/08	C.O.
Samuel Ghirmay	30	M	Meitir Camp	?/3/09	C.O.

Teklu Gebrehiwot	37	M	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious Meeting
Isaias Afeworki	27	M	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious Meeting
Milen Isaac	22	F	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious Meeting
Faiza Seid	27	F	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Merhawit Tadesse	22	F	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Yodit Mekonnen	30	F	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Misghana Goitom Aradom	20	F	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Filemon Yemane	22	M	Adi-Abieto	23/11/10	Religious activity
Yonadab Yonas	22	M	Adi-Abieto	23/11/10	Religious activity
Tesfazion Gebremichael	70	M	Asmara5th Police Station	20/7/11	UNK
Ghebrehiwot Tedla	85	M	Keren Police Station	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Yemane Kifleyohannes	77	M	Keren Police Station	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Zerisenai Ghebrehiwot	71	M	Keren Police Station	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Hagos Woldemichael	60	M	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Araia Ghebremariam	58	M	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Zerisenai Ghebrehiwot	71	M	Keren Police Station	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Hagos	60	M	Meitir	21/4/12	Attending

Woldemichael			Camp		a funeral
Araia Ghebremariam	58	M	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Tsegabirhan Berhe	49	M	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Daniel Meharizghi	35	M	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Attending a funeral
Redae Hagos	85	M	Keren Police Station	26/4/12	Attending a funeral
Amharai Osman	-	M	Meitir Camp	25/4/12	Attending a funeral
Yoseph Tsfamariam	48	M	Asmara	?/5/12	C.O.

INDIA

Protestants

Akshya Kumar VISHYAKARMA, Angad SINGH, Harendra, Albis BARA

Age: 32, 35, unknown and 35 years

Place of residence: Uttar Pradesh State and Bihar State

Date & Place of arrest: Around 21st February 2013 in Aara, Surguia District

Charges: Disruption of public peace

Statement of defendants: Conducting a three-day revival meeting

Date of release: Unknown, but released on bail

Bahadur MURMU, Rama SORENG

Date & Place of arrest: 18th January 2013, Dubia village, Baripada, Mayurbhanj District

Charges: Forced conversion to Christianity

Statement of Defendants: Holding a prayer meeting in the home of a Christian

Place of detention: Baripada Jail

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Orissa Freedom of Religion Act

Date of release: 20th January 2013 on bail

Rajesh YADAY, Raju DEWANGAN

Date & Place of arrest: 18th January 2013, in the Raigarh District, Chhattisgarh

Charges: Forced conversion to Christianity

Statement of defendants: Holding of a prayer meeting

Date of release: 19th January 2013 on bail

P. ANAND

Date & Place of arrest: 10th February 2013, in Basara, Adilabad District

Charges: Violation of sections 295A and 193A of the Indian Criminal Code

Statement of defendant: He was visiting friends at IIIT College.

Article of the criminal code:

Section 295A: Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs.

Section 193A: Giving false evidence in any judicial proceeding or fabricating false evidence for the purpose of being used in any stage of a judicial proceeding.

Date of release: Freed on bail on 12th February 2013.

INDONESIA

Christians

Pastor Bernhard MAUKAR – Pentecostal Church

Age: 59 years

Place of residence: Mekargalih village, West Java

Date & Place of arrest: 29th January 2013 - Makargalih village, West Java

Charges: Holding religious services without a valid permit

Statement of the defendant: Sentenced for his activities as the leader of a Pentecostal church

First court decision: Three months in prison or a Rp 25 million (\$2,600) fine (He opted for the prison term)

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: 2005 local government law

Place of detention: Sumedang Prison

Date of release: 29th April 2013

Other information: The arrest and subsequent sentence took place two days after the church came under attack and the pastor was assaulted by a group of Islamists. The church's attempts to apply for a permit had been blocked by local officials. Since his release from prison, Pastor Bernard and his congregation have again decided to pursue a church permit for the third time.

IRAN

Protestants

Parham FARAZMAND, Sara SARDSIRIAN, Sedigheh KIANI, Mona FAZLI and one unnamed

Date and Place of arrest: 9th August 2013 – Western Tehran

Place of detention: Unknown

Pastor Farhad SABOKROOH, Shahnaz JAYZAN (wife of SABOKROOH), **Naser ZAMAN-DEZFULI, Davoud ALIJANI**

Date & Place of arrest: December 2011 and 1st May 2013, Ahwaz

Charges: Conversion from Islam to Christianity, encouraging the conversion to Christianity of other Muslims, and propaganda against the regime by promoting Christianity as missionaries.

Statement of the defendant: Holding Christmas celebrations

Place of detention: Mr.Alijani is at Ahwaz's Karoon Prison; the other three are held at Sepidar Prison.

First court decision: Sentenced to one year in prison by the Revolutionary Court in Ahwaz

Final court decision: 1stMay 2013. Conviction upheld by a high court

Release date: Farhad and Naser were released 5th December 2013 (two weeks before completing sentence)

Other information: After the initial trial in 2011, the four were released on bail then re-arrested on 1st May 2013 on the occasion of their sentencing. Assemblies of God members

Farshid MODARES, Aval Samad KAZEMI, Hamid REZA and Yashar Farzin NO, Mohammad Reza PIRI

Date and Place of arrest: 10th July 2013 in Tabriz for the first three, 11th July (NO) and 17th July (PIRI)

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Unknown

Date of release: Mr. Kazemi was released on bail a few days after his arrest, but the rest of the group remained detained by early September.

Other information: Mohammad Reza PIRI sustained serious injuries after being tortured and severely beaten during interrogations and had to spend four days in the hospital of the central prison of Tabriz. Prior to the arrests, Yashar Farzin NO and his wife had been repeatedly put under pressure to recant their new Christian faith and return to Islam.

Pastor Saeed ABEDINI

Date of birth: 7th May 1980

Place of residence: Western U.S.A.

Date of arrest: 26th September 2012 in Tehran

Charges: Threatening the national security of Iran through his leadership in Christian house churches in the early 2000s

Statement of the defendants: Managing the construction of a non-religious orphanage

Place of detention: Rajai Shahr Prison

Final court decision: 27th January 2013, eight years in prison for endangering national security by aiding underground Evangelical churches

Other information: Pastor Saeed was granted U.S. citizenship in 2010 through marriage to his American wife. He has also been pressured by prison officials to recant his faith or remain imprisoned indefinitely. Saeed was often beaten and threatened to death in prison. Guards forced him to wear the uniform of a murderer. He has been denied bail.

Hossein Saketi ARAMSARI (Stephen)

Date and place of arrest: 23rd July 2013 in Golestan
Charges: Evangelism
Place of detention: Ward 7 of Karaj Central Detention House

Rev. Robert ASSERIAN

Date & Place of arrest: 21st May 2013, Tehran
Charges: Unknown
Statement of the defendant: Arrested during a prayer meeting at the Church of the Central Assemblies of God in Tehran
Last court decision: Released on bail. Security authorities asked Asserian and his family to keep their silence.
Duration of the detention: 43 days
Date of release: 2nd July 2013
Other information: Iranian forces also raided his home and confiscated various items, including his computer and books. The Assemblies of God church is permitted to operate but with many restrictions under Iranian law.

Pastor Vruir AVANESSIAN

Age: 61 years
Date & Place of arrest: 27th December 2012 in the northern district of Tehran
Charges: Action against national security and proselytizing Farsi-speaking citizens
Statement of the defendants: Gathering at a residential home to celebrate Christmas
Place of detention: Evin Prison in Tehran
Last court decision: His trial was held behind closed doors on 7th September 2013 in Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran. On 5th December, he was sentenced to three and a half years in prison.
Other information: Avanesian, an Armenian belonging to the Assemblies of God, is suffering severe health challenges.

Mostafa BORDBAR

Age: 27 years

Date and Place of arrest: 27th December 2012

Charges: Affiliation to anti-security organization and gathering with intent to commit crimes against Iranian national security

First court decisions: Branch 1 of the court in Rasht found him guilty of apostasy, but he was released on bail. On 31st July 2013, he was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin Prison

Last court decision: All charges were withdrawn on appeal the 30th October 2013.

Date of release: 3rd November 2013

Masoud DELIJANI

Date of arrest: 17th March 2011

Charges: Holding illegal house church gatherings, evangelizing Muslims and action “against national security”

Place of detention: Deizal-Abad, central prison of Kermanshah

First court decision: On 9th July 2011, he was released on bail and re-arrested two weeks later.

Last court decision: February 2012, sentenced to three years in prison by the Revolutionary Court of Kermanshah

Other information: Before being released on bail, he spent 114 days mostly in solitary confinement.

Pastor Farshid FATHI

Birth date: 1979

Date of arrest: 26th December 2010

Charges: Action against the regime’s security, being in contact with foreign organizations and religious propaganda

Place of detention: Evin Prison, including extended periods of solitary confinement.

Last court decision: January 2012, sentenced to six years in prison by the Revolutionary Court of Kermanshah

Other information: Assemblies of God pastor arrested during the 2010 Christmas crackdown. In April 2013, Fathi’s family moved to Canada.

Ebrahim FIROUZI

Age: 28 years

Place of residence: Robat-Karim, 20 kilometres south-west of Tehran

Date & Place of arrest: 7th March 2013 in Tehran

Charges: Launching and administering a Christian missionary website, distributing Bibles, cooperating with student activists and involvement in actions against national security.

Statement of the defendant: Security authorities and interrogators fabricated allegations.

Place of detention: After his arrest, Firouzi was sent to Ward 209 of Evin Prison and was subject to intense interrogations for ten days. He was then transferred to Ward 350 and released on bail after 53 days in custody.

Last court decision: On 15th July 2013 the Revolutionary Court in Robat-Karim sentenced him to one year in prison and two years of exile to Sarbaz, a remote border city.

Vahid HAKKANI

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contact with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, two years and eight months in prison

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz

Other information: In bad health, he was transferred to hospital in November 2013, after having to post bail of about \$70,000. Shiraz Revolutionary Court said his leave period will not be counted toward his prison sentence and he will need to stay extra time in prison to make up for his time away in hospital. That is illegal according to Iranian law.

Mojtaba Seyyed-Alaedin HOSSEIN

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contact with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, three years and four months in prison

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz

Maryam JALILI

Date of Arrest: April 2011

Charges: Evangelism among Muslims and being a member of a Christian group

Statement of the defendants: Gathering with other Christians to celebrate Christmas

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Last court decision: 5th or 4th December 2011, sentenced to two and a half years in prison

Release date: 17th September 2013, six weeks before the end of her normal term

Other information: She spent a period of time in solitary confinement in Ward 209 at Evin prison.

Samad KAZEMI

Date and Place of arrest: 10th July 2013 in Tabriz

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Ministry of Intelligence detention center in Tabriz

Other information: Released on bail a few days after his arrest

Shahin LAHOUTI

Date and Place of arrest: 12th October 2012 in Shiraz

Charges: Action against national security

Statement of the defendants: Conversion to Christianity

Last court decision: Two and a half years in prison

Place of detention: Adel-Abad Prison in Shiraz

Leila MOHAMMADI

Date of birth: 1982

Place of residence: Kianshahr town, East of Tehran

Date & Place of arrest: 30th July 2011 at her home in Kianshahr town, east of Tehran

Charges: Anti-Islamic propaganda, deceiving citizens by formation of a house church, insulting sacred figures and actions against national security

Place of detention: Evin Prison in Teheran

First court decision: January 2012, sentenced to two years in prison by the Revolutionary Court in Moalem Street

Last court decision: The case has been sent to the high court of Tehran Province for review.

Mohammad-Reza PARTOEI (Koorosh)

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contact with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, two years and eight months in prison

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz

Mitra RAHMATI

Date and Place of arrest: 24th December 2009 – Pakdasht, April 2011

Charges: Evangelism among Muslims

Statement of the defendant: Involved in Christmas celebration

Place of detention: Evin prison in Tehran

Last court decision: 5th or 4th December 2011, sentenced to two and a half years in prison

Release date: 17th September 2013, six weeks before the end of her normal term

Alireza SEYYEDIAN

Age: 37 years

Charges: Crimes against national security and propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: Holding regular meetings with former Muslims and distributing Bibles among the youth.

Place of detention: Section 350 of Evin Prison, Tehran

Final court decision: December 2011, sentenced to six years imprisonment

Other information: Alireza converted to Christianity and was baptized while living in Turkey. In the verdict it was also stated that he had communicated with Zionist satellite channels.

Homayoun SHOKOUHI

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contacts with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, three years and eight months in prison

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz

Other information: Wife Fariba Nazemian and 17-year old son Nima Shokouhi were also arrested.

Fariba SHOKOUHI-NAZEMI

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contact with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, two years suspended prison sentence

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz

Nima SHOKOUHI

Age: 17 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 8th February 2012

Charges: Attending a house church, spreading Christianity, having contact with foreign ministries, propaganda against the regime and disrupting national security

Last court decision: 17th June 2013, two years suspended prison sentence

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison

Maryam Naghash ZARGARAN

Age: 35 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 15th July 2013

Charges: Conducting propaganda against the Islamic regime and acting against the national security

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Article 610 of the Islamic Penal Code

Last court decision: Four years in prison

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Other information: She was transferred to Modares hospital on 29th September to be treated for heart disease.

Branhamist Christians/ Church of Iran

Mohammad ROGHANGIR, Massoud REZAIE, Mehdi AMERUNI, Bijan Farokhpour HAGHIGHI, Shahin LAHOOTI, Suroush SARAIE, Eskandar REZAIE and Roxana FORUGHI

Date of arrest: October 2012

Duration of the detention: One to six years in prison

Charges: Action against national security and propaganda against the regime

Last court decision (16th July 2013): Mohammad Roghangir was sentenced to six years, Massoud Rezaie to five years, Mehdi Ameruni and Bijan Farokhpour Haghighi to three years, Shahin Lahooti and Suroush Saraie to two and half years each,

while Eskandar Rezaie and Roxana Forughi were both sentenced to one year in prison.

Behzad TAALIPASAND and Mohammed-Reza OMIDI

Place of residence: Rasht

Date of Arrest: 31st December 2012

Charges: Action against national security

Statement of the defendant: Members of a local house church

Place of detention: Ministry of Intelligence and Security detention facility

Last court decision: 6th October 2013, sentenced to 80 lashes for drinking wine during a communion service and possessing a satellite antenna

Behnam IRANI

Age: 47 years

Place of residence: Karaj

Date and Place of arrest: 31st May 2011

Charges: Crime against national security, holding house church services and evangelizing Muslims

Statement of the defendant: Leader of a house church

Last court decision: Six years in prison

Place of detention: Ghezel Hesar Prison in Karaj

Other information: Irani was first arrested in December 2006 and tried for crimes against national security. He was released in January 2007 but was soon re-arrested, tried and sentenced to a suspended sentence of five years in prison. Shortly before the time he was to be released from his one-year prison term on 18th October 2011, he was informed by letter that he was now required to serve his five-year suspended prison sentence from 2008.

Pastor Yousef NADARKHANI

Date of birth: 1978

Place of residence: Rasht

Date & Place of arrest: 13th October 2009 in Rasht

Charges: Apostasy, converting to Christianity and evangelizing Muslims

Statement of the defendants: Converting from Islam to Christianity and questioning the Muslim monopoly on religious instruction for children, seen as unconstitutional by the defendant

Place of detention: Lakan prison in Gilan Province

First court decision: September 2010, sentenced to death for apostasy

Last court decision: In September 2012, he was acquitted of apostasy charges but sentenced to three years in prison for evangelizing Muslims.

Date of release: 7th January 2013.

Sunni Muslims

Ahmad NASERI, Talib MALAKI, Hamed AHMADI, Adrees NEIMATI, Jahangir DEHGHANI, Jamshid DEHGHANI, Sadiq MOHAMMADI, Shahram AHMADI, Varia GHADERIFARD, Behrooz SHANZARI, Farzad SHANZARI, Mokhtar RAHEMI, Pooria MOHAMMMDI, Bahman RAHEMI, Kamal MALAIE, Mohammad GHAREBI and Mohammad Yavar RAHEMI

Charges: Acting against national security and enmity against God

Last court decision: August 2013 - Sentenced to death

Place of detention: Gohardasht Prison

Other information: The prisoners are said to have confessed to these crimes under torture

Other information: None of the prisoners have been charged with violence.

Shi'a Muslims

Ayatollah Mohammad Kazemini BOROIJERDI

Date of Arrest: October 2006

Charges: Enmity against God and spreading propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: Advocating the separation of religion and state and speaking out on behalf of the rights of Iran's religious minorities as well as those of the Shi'a Muslim majority

First court decision: Death sentence

Last court decision: Sentenced to 11 years in prison

Other information: In addition to the imprisonment, the government has banned him from practicing his clerical duties and confiscated his home and belongings.

Zoroastrians

Mojtaba AHMADI

Date of arrest: December 2009

Charges: Blasphemy, conspiracy and anti-regime propaganda

Court decision: In May 2010, he was sentenced to 6 years in prison: blasphemy (3 years), conspiracy and anti-regime propaganda (3 years).

Other information: Mojtaba Ahmadi is the cousin of Mohsen (see below).

Mohsen SADEGHIPOUR,

Date of arrest: December 2009

Charges: Anti-regime propaganda favoring the Zoroastrian faith, insulting Islamic practices, insulting the Supreme Leader and promoting activities against the Islamic Republic through

the propagation of Zoroastrianism and disrupting the public order.

First court decision: Branch 26 of Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced him to four and a half years in prison, 74 lashes and a fine.

Last court decision: Branch 54 of Tehran Appeals Court upheld the sentence in its entirety.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Abolfazl (Pouria) SHAHPARI

Date of arrest: February 2009, along with his brother Dariush (see below)

Charges: Anti-regime propaganda, gathering and conspiracy, insulting the Supreme Leader, membership in the Iran Zoroastrian Committee and blasphemy by propaganda for Zoroastrianism

Place of detention: In late August 2011, he was summoned to Evin Prison and detained in Ward 240.

Final court decision: 2.5 years in prison and 74 lashes

Other information: Member of the Iran Zoroastrian Committee.

Mohammad Javad (Dariush) SHAHPARI

Age: 21 years

Date & Place of arrest: February 2009 for participating in the Ashura Day protests in Tehran.

Charges: Anti-regime propaganda, gathering and conspiracy, insulting the Supreme Leader, membership in the Iran Zoroastrian Committee and blasphemy by propaganda for Zoroastrianism

Place of detention: In May 2012, he was summoned to Evin Prison and detained in Ward 209, including some time in solitary confinement

Final court decision: 2 years and 4 months in prison and 74 lashes

Other information: Member of the Iran Zoroastrian Committee.

Baha'is

In addition to those listed below there are more than 100 Baha'is serving prison terms for a wide range of offenses related to their membership or activity as Baha'is, such as forming an illegal cult, acting against national security, membership in an illegal group, membership in the deviant sect of Baha'ism, etc. Prison sentences range from one to twenty years and can include a year or more of forced resettlement once the prisoner is released. A number of them are lecturers or work for the Bahá'í Institute for Higher Education, an organization that aims to provide higher education to Baha'is, as they are often barred from attending Iran's other universities.

Fariba KAMALABADI TAEFI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, AfifNAIMI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET, TAZANGI, BehrouzAzizi TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM

Ages: Taefi 50, Khanjani 80, Naimi 51, Tazangi 54, Tavakkoli 61 and Tizfahm 40 years

Date & Place of arrest: Sabat on 5th May 2008 all others on 14th May 2008 in Tehran

Charges: Espionage, propaganda activities against the Islamic order, the establishment of an illegal administration, cooperation with Israel and acting against the security of the country

Statement of the defendants: Leaders of the Baha'i community in Iran

Places of detention: Evin (Tehran) and Gohardasht (Karaj)

Court decision: August 2010, sentenced to 20 years in prison

Other information: In September 2010, authorities informed the seven Baha'is orally that their 20-year sentences were reduced to 10 years. However, prison authorities told them in

March 2011 that their original 20-year sentences had been reinstated.

Mahmoud BADAIVAM, Noushin KHADEM, Farhad SEDGHI, Riaz SOBHANI, Ramin ZIBAIE and Kamran MORTEZAIE

Date & Place of arrest: 22nd May 2011 in Tehran and Karaj (Alborz); 14th June 2011 in Tehran for Sobhani

Charges: Membership in a deviant sect with the goal of taking action against the security of the country

Statement of the defendants: Involvement with the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education

Place of detention: Gohardasht

Court decisions: On 21st September 2011, Sedghi was sentenced to four years in prison. On 25th September 2011, Mortezaie was sentenced to five years in prison. On 27th September 2011, Badavam and Khadem were sentenced to four years in prison. Mahmoudi and Sobhani were also sentenced to four years in prison.

Rozita VASEGHI, Nahid GHADIRI, Davar NABILZADEH, Jalayer VAHDAT and Sima ESHRAGI (Aghdaszadeh)

Date & Place of arrest: Vaseghi and Ghadiri were arrested on 16th March 2010; Nabilzadeh on 13th July 2010; Vahdat and Eshragi on 24th October 2010. All were arrested in Mashhad, Razavi Khorasan.

Place of detention: Mashhad

First court decision: 25th October 2009, sentenced to five years in prison

Last court decision: Appeal launched

Nahid GHADIRI

Date and place of arrest: 16th March 2010

Charges: Five years in prison

Place of detention: Vakil Abad prison

Duration of the detention: 3 years, 9 months and 11 days

Date of release: 10th November 2013

Erfan ESHANI

Date & Place of arrest: 30th October 2012 in Sangsar, Semnan

Place of detention: Semnan

Court decision: One year in prison under Ta'zir law

Zohreh NIKAYIN and an infant child

Age: 31 years old

Date & Place of arrest: Second arrest, 22nd September 2012 in Semnan

Charges: Forming illegal administrative groups, known as moral education classes, with intent to attract Muslims and to promote the ideologies of the perverse Baha'i sect; membership in illegal groups and organizations, including the Ruhi Institute; organizing gatherings, science and technology lectures and Nineteen Day Feasts for the purpose of propaganda [against] the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran and in the interest of Baha'i faith

Statement of the defendant: Organizing classes for Bahá'í children

First court decision: Sentenced to seven years in prison

Last court decision: 8th December 2011, sentenced to 23 months in prison

Place of detention: Semnan Prison

Other information: Married with a baby child, also in prison

Taraneh TORABI and an infant child

Date & Place of arrest: 22nd September 2012 in Sangsar, Semnan

Charges: Organizing an illegal group with the goal of aiding the Islamic Republic's enemies, membership in an illegal organization with the goal of attracting Muslims and preaching against the Islamic Republic and propaganda against the Islamic Republic.

Statement of the defendant: Organizing classes for Bahá'í children

First court decision: Sentenced to five years and ten months in prison

Last court decision: On appeal the sentence was commuted to 20 months in prison.

Place of detention: Semnan Prison

Other information: Married to Erfan Eshani (see above), with a child born during her imprisonment

Alibakhsh BAZRAFKAN

Age: 61 years old

Date & Place of arrest: 31st October 2009 in Yasouf (Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad)

Charges: Plotting overthrow of the government, acting against national security and propaganda against the regime

Place of detention: Yasouf

Court decision: 7th December 2009, sentenced to two and a half years in prison and five years of internal exile

Goudarz BEIDAGHI

Age: 62 years

Date & Place of arrest: 26th April 2010 Sangsar, Semnan. On 17th July 2012 he began to serve his term.

Charges: Propaganda against the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran; disturbance of public order through distribution of flyers (letter of the Bahá'í community of Iran addressed to the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran)

Statement of the defendants: Involvement with the Bahá'í Institute for Higher Education

Place of detention: Sangsar

Court decision: 4th October 2011, sentenced to one year in prison under Ta'zír law (usually corporal punishment) and three years' exile from Semnan

Dates of release: 13th February 2012 on bail and 18th May 2013 at end of sentence

Faran HESAMI

Date & Place of arrest: 25th July 2012 in Tehran

Charges: Conspiracy and assembly with the intention to act against the national security by membership in the perverse Baha'i sect

Statement of the defendants: Involvement with the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education. She was a lecturer at the Baha'i Online University.

Place of detention: Evin prison, Tehran

Court decision: 9th May 2012, sentenced to five years in prison

Other information: She is the wife of Kamran Rahimian (see below).

Afshin IGHANI

Age: 39 years old

Date & Place of arrest: September 2011 in Semnan

Charges: Formation of a group and membership in illegal groups and assemblies with the intention of disturbing national security; actions against national security through propaganda against the regime [and in support of anti-regime groups], i.e. propaganda for the perverse Baha'i sect.

Place of detention: Semnan

Court decision: 5th May 2010, sentenced to four years, three months and one day in prison

Peyman KASHFI

Date & Place of arrest: 13th February 2011 in Tehran

Charges: Membership in an anti-Islamic group and propaganda against the regime

Place of detention: Evin prison in Tehran

Court decision: 15th June 2010, sentenced to four years in prison

Bhfar KHANJANI

Age: 36 years

Date & Place of arrest: 21st June 2011 in Mashhad, Razavi Khorasan

Charges: Forming groups and membership in groups and assemblies with intention to disturb the national security; activity against national security through propaganda against the regime; use, possession and distribution of 63 illegal compact discs containing appalling and offensive material

Place of detention: Semnan

First court decision: 4th May 2010, sentenced to four years in prison

Last court decision: Appeal denied on 6th February 2012

Kamran RAHIMIAN

Date & Place of arrest: 14th September 2011 in Tehran

Charges: Using falsely obtained degrees, illegal counselling, running illegal classes, defrauding the public

Statement of the defendants: Involvement with the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education. He was a lecturer at the Baha'i Online University.

Place of detention: Gohardasht

Court decision: Sentenced to four years in prison

Other information: He is the husband of Faran Hesami (see above).

Kayvan RAHIMIAN

Charges: Assembly and collusion with intent to commit acts of crime against national security, membership in the perverse Baha'i sect

Statement of the defendants: Involvement with the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education. He was a lecturer at the Baha'i Online University.

Court decision: 12th June 2012, sentenced to five years in prison and a fine of about 8,000 USD/ 6,000 EUR

Place of detention: Evin prison, Tehran

Didar RAOUFI

Age: 39 years

Date & Place of arrest: 16th October 2011 in Tehran

Place of detention: Evin Prison in Tehran

First court decision: 12th February 2011, sentenced to three years in prison

Feizollah ROWSAHN

Age: 63 years

Date & Place of arrest: 15th January 2011 in Sari, Mazandaran

Charges: Teaching the Baha'i faith, being a member of and serving the Baha'i community and assisting Baha'i youth

Place of detention: Bijar

First court decision: Sentenced to one year in prison and four years internal exile to Damghan

Last court decision: Remaining internal exile changed to additional six months' imprisonment in Sari

Mahvash Shahriari SABET

Age: 37 years

Date & Place of arrest: 5th March 2008 in Mashhad, Razavi Khorasan

Charges: Espionage, propaganda activities against the Islamic order, the establishment of an illegal administration, cooperation with Israel, acting against the security of the country

Statement of the defendant: Affiliation to the group "Friends of Baha'i"

Place of detention: Evin prison, Tehran

First court decision: 14th June 2010, sentenced to 20 years in prison

Azizollah SAMANDARI

Age: 56 years

Date & Place of arrest: 7th July 2012 in Tehran

Charges: Being an active member of the perverse Baha'i sect with the intention to act against the national security

Place of detention: Evin prison, Tehran

First court decision: 4th October 2011, sentenced to five years in prison

Last court decision: In February 2012, the verdict was upheld by the appeal court.

KAZAKHSTAN

Protestants

Bakhytzhan KASHKUMBAYEV

Age: 66 years

Place of residence: Astana

Dates of arrest: 17th May 2013 and 8th October 2013

Charges: Harming the health of a church member by using hallucinogenic communion drink; espionage, fraud, money laundering; distributing extremist texts.

Statement of the defendants: Members of the congregation say the drink is a harmless, non-alcoholic beverage used as part of the church's Holy Communion.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 233-1, Part 1 of the Criminal Code. This punishes "Propaganda of terrorism or extremism, or public calls to commit an act of terrorism or extremism, as well as the distribution of material of the content indicated" with imprisonment of between three and seven years.

Duration of the detention: Detained for 2 months in Almaty Psychiatric Clinic after his first arrest – Re-arrested and prosecuted on the ground of extremism on the day of his release from 4-month detention

Other information: Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev, a convert from Islam, is pastor of Grace Protestant Church. Most of the church members are also former Muslims.

Atheist

Aleksandr KHARLAMOV

Age: 62 years

Date of arrest: 14th March 2013

Statement of the defendant: Arrested primarily due to his belief as an atheist

Charges: Inciting religious hatred in his writings on religion

Statement of the defendant: He rejects the accusation which carries a maximum penalty of seven years' imprisonment.

Place of detention: First in a psychiatric hospital in East Kazakhstan and then at the Investigation Isolation Prison No. 1 in the country's commercial capital Almaty

Date of release: 18th March 2009 on bail

KYRGYZSTAN

Jehovah's Witnesses

Oksana KORYAKINA and Nadezhda SERGIENKO

Age: 33 and 54 years

Place of Residence: Osh Region, southern Kyrgyzstan

Date & Place of arrest: 20th March 2013

Charges: Defrauding two old women

Place of detention: Held in police detention for 48 hours

First court decision: Placed under house arrest for two months during investigation

Last court decision: House arrest charge upheld

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 166, Part 2, points 2 and 3, this punishes large-scale swindling "using deception" by a group of people "under a prior conspiracy" with a fine or up to three years' imprisonment

Other information: No evidence was presented linking the two women to the allegations.

Muslim

An unnamed woman

Date & Place of arrest: June 2012, in Tashkumyr, in Jalal-Abad Region

Charges: Extremism

Statement of the defendant: Storing a Quran and several disks in Kyrgyz with sermons on what the Quran teaches. Prosecutor's Office officials did not understand Arabic, so they claimed that she had ties with some militant Islamic groups.

First court decision: Sentenced to seven years in prison

LAOS

Pastors BOUNMA, SOMKAEW and BOUNMEE

Place of residence: Savannakhet province

Date & Place of arrest: 5th February 2013, Savannakhet Province

Charges: Spreading the Christian religion, related to reproducing a DVD of a Christian film.

Statement of the defendant: The three copies were for personal use

Dates of release: One was released later that day, while the other two were held at least until mid-March

Place of detention: Phin district prison (high security section)

LIBYA

Protestants

Ezzat Hakim ATALLAH and four unnamed others

Date and Place of arrest: February 2013

Charges: Proselytizing

Place of detention: Banghazi

Dates of release: Atallah died while in prison on 10th March; it is unknown if the other four have been released.

Other information: Atallah had been suffering from a heart condition and had diabetes. Naguib Guebrayel, a Coptic Christian lawyer, claimed that Attallah "died after being tortured with other detainees." An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official said that Attallah, who suffered from diabetes and heart ailments, had likely died of natural causes.

Copts

Amgad ZAKI, Atef HABIB and about 50 other Copts

Age: 26 and 34

Date and Place of arrest: 26th February 2013, market called el-Jareed in Benghazi

Charges: Proselytizing

Place of detention: Benghazi

Duration of detention: At least two weeks for Amgad ZAKI and Atef HABIB. Four others were released more than a month later. Unknown for the others

Other information: Dozens of Coptic Christians were tortured inside a detention center run by a powerful militia in eastern Libya amid a wave of assaults targeting Christians in Benghazi. During four days of detention Amgad Zaki and Atef Habib were flogged, forced to take off their clothes in cold weather and stand outdoors.

Foreign Missionaries

An Egyptian, a South African, a South Korean and a Swede

Date and Place of arrest: 10th February 2013, Benghazi

Charges: Proselytizing, distributing Bibles and other religious material

Date of release: They were released on 11th April 2013.

MOROCCO

Protestant

Mohamed el BALDI

Age: 34 years old

Place of residence: Aïn Aïcha

Date and Place of arrest: September 2013

Charges: Shaking the faith of a Muslim

Last court decision: Two and a half years in prison and a fine of 5000 dirhams (\$600)

Date of release: 10th October 2013

Other information: The procedure which led to this sentence was tainted with irregularities, including the absence of the accusers at the court hearing.

NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC

(Non-recognized state under Armenian rule inside Azerbaijan)

Jehovah's Witness

Karen HARUTYUNYAN

Age: 18 years old

Date & Place of residence: 30th November 2011 in the town of Askeran, central Karabakh

Charges: Conscientious objector to compulsory military service

Statement of the defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith

Place of detention: Shusha Prison, near capital city of Stepanakert

First court decision: 30th December 2011, sentenced to 30 months in prison by the Askeran District Court

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 327, Part 1: "Evasion from regular military or alternative service call-up, training exercise or mobilization, without any order defined by Legislation as grounds for exemption, is punished with arrest for a maximum term of two months or imprisonment for a maximum term of three years"

Other information: The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic is a de facto independent but unrecognized state. The territory is internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan, although the latter has not exercised power over most of the region since 1991. Since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994, the territory has been under military control of Armenia.

NORTH KOREA

It is estimated that 150,000 to 200,000 prisoners are currently in North Korea's network of political prison camps. North Korea experts, using testimony from refugees, estimate that there may be 6,000 Christians incarcerated in Prison No. 15 in the northern part of the country. However, no verifiable statistics are available concerning FORB prisoners.

PAKISTAN

Ahmadis

Syed Altaf HUSSAIN, ASMATULLAH and four others

Date & Place of arrest: 22nd February 2013

Charges: Hussain was doing the book-binding of some Ahmadiyya publications.

Place of detention: P.S. Old Anarkali

Duration of the detention: Group of four after two days. Syed Hussain released. Asmatullah still detained at mid-July

Other information: Syed Altaf Hussain is not an Ahmadi.

Abdul Sami KHAN, Mehdi Imtiaz AHMAD, Khalid ASHFAQ, Tahir AHMAD, Faisal AHMADM, and Azhar ZAREEF

Date & Place of arrest: 10th April 2013 in Lahore

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Sections 295-B and 298-C (which prohibit an Ahmadi from calling himself a Muslim or propagating his faith) of the Pakistani Penal Code and Section 11-W (printing or publishing material intending to incite hatred) of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1997

Statement of the defendants: Printing and distributing the Ahmadi newspaper Al-Fazal

Last court decision: On 7th May 2013 the judge granted bail to Azhar Zareef and Faisal Ahmad Tahir and denied bail to Khalid Ashfaq and Tahir Ahmad.

RUSSIA

Said Nursi readers

2 arrested, 30 detained

Date & Place of arrest: 14th February 2013, in Naberezhnye Chelny

Charges: Holding an illegal meeting

Court decision: As preventive measures the detention of the male and house arrest of the female

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2 (participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

10 detained

Date and Place of arrest: 2nd March 2013

Charges: Members of an extremist organization

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2 (participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

Other information: one Turkmen, four Azerbaijani and five Russians

8 detained

Place of residence: St. Petersburg and Urals region of Perm

Charges: Suspicion of organizing or participating in Nurdzhular, the banned organization of Nursi followers

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2

(participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

Statement of the defendants: The readers deny being part of any organization.

Duration of the detention: Prolonged detention

7 detained

Date and Place of arrest: May 2013, Perm Region

Charges: No formal charges

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2 (participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

Duration of the detention: As of 17th June 2013 they were still detained.

2 arrested

Place of residence: Novosibirsk, Siberia

Charges: Being part of an extremist organization

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2 (participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

Statement of the defendants: The readers deny being part of any organization.

Last court decision: One year in prison

Other Information: The Supreme Court's April 2008 decision banning Nurdzhular was cited in these cases.

Shirazi BEKIROV

Age: 40 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 3rd March 2013, St. Petersburg

Charges: Organizing Nurdzhular activities

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 282.2, Part 1 (organization of) and Part 2

(participation in a banned "extremist" organization) providing for up to three years in prison

First court decision: 23rd April 2013 order signed by Judge Mikhail Kharitonov of Nevsky District Court prolonged Bekirov's detention until 28th June 2013

Last court decision: 28th August 2013, six months in prison

Date of release: 2nd September 2013

SAUDI ARABIA

Protestant

52 Ethiopian Christians (46 men and six women)

Date & Place of arrest: 8th February 2013, Dammam

Charges: Converting Muslims to Christianity

Statement of the defendant: Attending a private worship service

Other information: Authorities were likely to release two of the Ethiopian Christians who have residential permits and the others were expected to be deported.

SINGAPORE

The government of Singapore enforces compulsory military service and does not recognize the right to conscientious objection. Eighteen young Jehovah's Witnesses are each serving a total of 39 months of imprisonment in the Armed Forces

Detention Barracks. Another Witness was released in August 2013 after serving a year in prison for refusing reserve military duty.

SOUTH KOREA

Jehovah's Witnesses

At present, 599 young Jehovah's Witnesses are serving 18-month prison terms for conscientious objection to military service. From the Korean War period to the present, South Korea has repeatedly prosecuted young Witness men for their refusal to do military service. No provision is made for alternative service. Throughout this time, South Korea has sentenced 17,549 Witnesses to a combined total of 34,100 years in prison for their conscientious objection to military service. South Korea has failed to abide by its international treaty obligations to recognize the fundamental rights of conscientious objectors.

Number of detainees/ prisoners: 599 (on 18th November 2013)

Charges: Conscientious objection to military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with their faith.

Last court decision: Generally sentenced to 18 months in prison

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Military Service Act Article 88 Paragraph 1

Duration of detention: Usually 18 months

Other information: Conscientious objectors who are called up as reservists face multiple prosecutions and repeated

punishments over an eight-year period for violation of Homeland Reserve Forces Act, Article 15, Par. 9

The UN Human Rights Committee's decision on 1st December 2006 ruled that South Korea violated Article 18, paragraph 1, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This decision found an infringement of freedom of conscience in the case of two Jehovah's Witnesses imprisoned for their conscientious objection to military service. On 24th March 2011, the Committee issued a similar ruling in the case of 100 other Witnesses; 438 other Witness complaints are still pending before this Committee. The Committee decisions remind South Korea that it is in violation of this provision under international law. The government of South Korea has stated that it does not intend to implement the Committee's views.

SUDAN

Protestants

At least 55

Date & Place of arrest: February, 2013

Charges: Receiving money from foreign countries, including Israel

Statement of the defendants: False accusation

Duration of detention: Around two weeks

Salwa Fahmi Suleiman GIREIS

Age: 64 years old

Date and Place of arrest: 12th February 2013 in Khartoum

Charges: No charge

Duration of detention: Seven weeks

Release date: 2nd April 2013

TAJIKISTAN

Jamaat Tabligh Muslims

23 followers

Charges: Being part of an extremist organization

Last court decision: 10th March 2010, prison terms of between three and six years.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code's article 307-3 ("organization of banned extremist religious organizations"). Part 1 specifies prison terms of between five and seven years for leaders of such organizations. Part 2 of the same article specifies fines of between 1,000 and 2,000 times the 'minimum calculation index' - 25 Somonis before 1 July 2009 and from this date 35 Somonis - or prison terms of between three and five years for those participating in such organizations.

Erkin ABDUHALILOV, Talabsho ABDUSAMADOV, Khudaydod ALNAZAROV, Mahkamjon AZIZOV, Umarjon AZIZOV, Mahmadjon BAKIYEV, Faridun BOBOYEV, Jamshed BOYAKOV, Rustam BOYMUHAMEDOV, Amirali and Murodali DAVLATOVS (brothers), IGBOLSHO, Abdujabbor IZZATULLAYEV, Saynurdin KALUGSHOYEV, Saidkomil KHALOV, Doniyor KHASHIMOV, Nasrullo KHISOMOV, Mahmatali KURBONOV Churakhon MIRZOYEV, Abduvali MURODOV, JALOLIDDIN, Ismoil MAHMUDOV, NASRULLAYEV, Muhibullo RAHMONOV, Nosir RAKHIMOV, Bashir SAIDOV, Azizhudja SALIMOV, Habibullo SHARIPOV, Churabek SAIDZODA, Toirjon SAMADOV, Nemat SANGINOV,

**Abdukahor SATTOROV, Abdumanon SATTOROV,
Raufjon SHEROV, Rahmonazi TALIBOV, Suhrob
TEMIROV, Ahmad VALIYEV**

Charges: Being part of an extremist organization

Last court decision: On 18th May 2010, prison terms of between three and six years and heavy fines.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code's article 307-3 ("organization of banned extremist religious organizations")

Statement of the defendants: The readers deny being part of any organization.

TURKMENISTAN

Jehovah's Witnesses

Tahir NASYLAYEV, Abdurasul NASYLAYEV, Bahram SHAMURADOV, Hudayar ISMAILOV and two others

Place of residence: Dashoguz

Date & Place of arrest: 24th January 2013, Dashoguz

Charges: Holding an illegal religious meeting

Place of detention: Dashoguz Police Station No. 1 and the Dashoguz City Police Station's Detention Facility

Court decision: All three guilty, receiving fines of 750 Manats (195 Euro)

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Administrative Code Article 205, Parts 1 and 2. "Participated in the activity of the religious group Jehovah's Witnesses, which is specifically and officially not registered by Turkmenistan's Justice Ministry"

Date of release: 25th January 2013

Other information: All six were physically abused while in police custody, and one of the women was threatened with rape

Zafar ABDULLAEV

Age: 24 years old

Place of residence: Dashoguz

Charges: Conscientious objector to military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith

Place of detention: General regime in Seydi Labour camp, eastern Lebap Region

Court decision: 6th March 2012, sentenced to two years in prison by the Dashoguz City Court

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1, punishes refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment.

Matkarim AMINOV

Charges: Conscientious objector to military service

Statement of defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with their faith.

Court decision: In January 2013 Dashoguz court sentenced him to two years.

Other information: Aminov had previously been sentenced (2010) and served 18 months in prison by the Dashoguz court.

Arslan DOVLETOV

Charges: Conscientious objector to military service

Statement of defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with their faith

Court decision: In January 2013 Dashoguz court sentenced him to 18 months.

Mahmud HUDAYBERGENOV

Charges: Conscientious objector to compulsory military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Place of detention: General regime in Seydi Labour camp, eastern Lebap Region

Court decision: In August 2011 he was sentenced to two years in prison by the Dashoguz Court.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1, punishes refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment.

Navruz NASYRLAEV

Date & Place of arrest: 7th March 2012 in Dashoguz

Charges: Conscientious objector to compulsory military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Place of detention: Strict regime section at the Seydi Labour camp, Lebap Region

Court decision: 1st May 2012, sentenced to two years in prison by the Dashoguz City Court

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1, punishes refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment.

Juma NAZAROV

Age: 19 years

Place of residence: Ashgabad

Date of Arrest: 10th May 2012

Charges: Conscientious objector to military service

Statement of the defendants: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Court decision: On 23rd July 2012 he was sentenced to 18 months in prison by the Azatlyk District Court.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1, punishes refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment

Other information: Beginning on 10th May 2012 he was held in pre-trial detention at Yashlyk, south-east of Ashgabad

Aibek SALAYEV

Age: 33 years

Charge: Distributing pornography

Statement of the defendants: The charge was fabricated to punish him for his faith

First court decision: On 12th April 2012 he was sentenced to four years in prison by the Dashoguz City Court.

Last court decision: On 1st May 2012 an appeal was rejected

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 164, Part 2 of the Criminal Code punishes “production or distribution of pornographic items” more than once or by a group of people. The maximum penalty is five years’ imprisonment.

Other information: Witnesses said that it was impossible for Salayev to copy pornographic discs, since there is no way to insert DVD into his small notebook.

Atamurat SUVKHANOV

Age: 27 years old

Charges: Failure to serve compulsory military service

Statement of the defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Court decision: On 13th March 2013, found guilty of violating Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1. Sentenced to a one-year general regime labor camp term

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1. Punishment for refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment

Other information: Suvkhanov has already served one year in prison for this reason.

Amirlan TOLKACHEV

Date of birth: 25th October 1992

Place of residence: Turkmenabad

Charges: Failure to serve compulsory military service

Statement of the defendant: Performing military service is incompatible with his faith.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Article 219, Part 1. This punishes refusal to serve in the armed forces in peacetime with a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment

Last court decision: Turkmenabad City Court, one-and-a-half-years in prison

Protestant

Pastor Ilmurad NURLIEV (Light to the World Protestant Church)

Age: 47 years old

Place of residence: Town of Mary, east of Ashgabad

Date of Arrest: 27th August 2010

Charge: Swindling money

Statement of the defendant: The charges were fabricated to punish him for his religious activity. Among the people he was supposed to have swindled money from were two women that occasionally attended church meetings and two men he had never met.

Place of detention: Seydi Labour camp, eastern Lebap Region

First court decision: 21st October 2010, sentenced to four years in prison and “forcible medical treatment”

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 228, Part 2

Other information: Pastor Nurliev has to report each Saturday to the local police station. Throughout his 18-month imprisonment he was not allowed to have a copy of the Bible.

Muslim

Musa (other name unknown)

Age: About 25 years old

Place of residence: Ashgabad

Charges: Teaching the Koran to children

Place of detention: Seydi Labour camp, eastern Lebap Region

Court decision: In 2012, sentenced to four years in prison

UZBEKISTAN

Muslims

The 2013 Annual Report of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom¹ has released a list of 65 Muslims detained because of their religious activities or affiliations. This list was based on NGO reporting from April 2012-January 2013: 12 of them have been sentenced to various prison terms, ranging from 7 to 18 years, while four cases were still pending.

¹See the list at <http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Appendices%20Combined.pdf>

Zhamshid BAZARBAYEV, Mirkamol MUSAYEV, Dilshod SHOKIROV and Zhavlon UMARBEKOV

Date and place of arrest: Around 28th December 2012

Charges: Establishment or reactivation of illegal public associations or religious organizations and active participation in their activities

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal code 216

Statement of the defendants: Met in private for joint prayers and Koran reading

First court decision: Two years in prison

Last court decision: Released on condition not to leave the region and bail of 1,600,000 Soms (550 EUR or 750 USD)

Place of detention: Interior Ministry's Detention Centre in Tuzel

Duration of the detention: 30 days

Other information: On 7th January Rahmatullayev and his fellow Muslims were taken from the Interior Ministry's Detention Centre to the Regional Police's Investigation Ward. Police kept them there for 10 days and tortured them by electrocution to extract confessions from them. The men were then taken back to the Interior Ministry's Detention Centre in Tuzel.

Gayrat KHUSANOV and Shuhrat YUNUSOV

Place of residence: Tashkent Region

Date of Arrest: Between mid-May and 26th July 2012

Statement of the defendants: Meeting to read the Koran, discuss their faith and to learn how to pray

Place of detention: Yangibazar Detention Centre in Tashkent Region

First court decision: On 22nd November 2012, Yukorichirchik District Court sentenced Khusanov and Yunusov to seven years in prison

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 216: "illegal establishment or

reactivation of illegal public associations or religious organizations, as well as active participation in their activities”

Azimjon EMINOV

Date and place of arrest: Around 28th December 2012

Charges: Illegal establishment or reactivation of illegal public associations or religious organizations, as well as active participation in their activities

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Articles 216 and 246 Part 1

Statement of the defendants: Met in private for joint prayers and Koran reading

First court decision: Three years in prison

Last court decision: Released on condition not to leave the region and bail of 1,600,000 Soms (550 EUR or 750 USD)

Place of detention: Interior Ministry's Detention Centre in Tuzel

Duration of the detention: 30 days

Bobur KHATAMOV

Date and place of arrest: October 10th 2013

Charges: Hooliganism

Last court decision: 15 days administrative detention

Place of detention: Interior Ministry's Special Detention Centre in Tuzel

Duration of the detention: As of 26th November 2013 Bobur was still detained

Ravshan RAHMATULLAYEV

Date and place of arrest: Around 28th December 2012

Charges: Illegal establishment or reactivation of illegal public associations or religious organizations, as well as active participation in their activities

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Criminal Code Articles 216, 244-1 paragraph 3, and 246 Part 1

Statement of the defendants: Met in private for joint prayers and Koran reading

Last court decision: Six years in prison

Place of detention: Karshi [Qarshi] Labour Camp

Khayrullo TURSUNOV

Age: 38 years

Place of residence: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Date & Place of arrest: 7th April 2012, Aktobe Kazakhstan, 13th March Uzbekistan

Charges: Extremist religious activity

Statement of the defendant: Practiced faith outside of State run mosques, fled to Kazakhstan.

Place of detention: Aktobe Kazakhstan, moved to Almaty on 13th February 2013, moved on 13th March to Tashkent, Uzbekistan

First court decision in Kazakhstan: On 9th April 2012 Aktobe City Specialized Administrative Court approved his detention, which was subsequently extended several times by the court.

Other events: On 25th October 2012, Kazakh Deputy General Prosecutor Khalimoc approved the decision to extradite.

Second court decision: On 22nd November 2012 Astana Regional Court referred Tursunov's appeal to Aktobe City Court No. 2.

Third court decision: On 25th December 2012 Judge Kusanova upheld the extradition.

Final court decision: On 18th January 2013 a panel of Judges at Aktobe Regional Court rejected Tursunov's appeal and upheld his extradition.

Final court decision in Uzbekistan: He was sentenced to 12 years in prison by the Kashkadarya Regional Criminal Court in June 2013.

Protestants

Sergei BRISLAVSKI, Olga BRISLAVSKI, Yekaterina BRISLAVSKI, Rita STRUCHAVEVA, Lyubov ABDALOVA, Yuri ZAKHARCHENKO, Tatyana SHOPOV, Stanislav SHOPOV, Lola KAMALOVA, Azamat NAZAROV, Vladimir SHIRYAYEV, Yelena SHIRYAYEV, an 11 month old girl and seven others

Place of residence: Almalyk, Tashkent Region

Date & Place of arrest: 24th January 2013

Statement of the defendant: Conducting a private Baptist meeting

Place of detention: Almalyk Police Station

Date of release: 24th January 2013

Other information: The nineteen were taken to the police station to write statements. The Brislavskis' flat was then searched and Christian song books and CD were confiscated. While in custody Olga Brislavski, Nazarov and Kamalova all suffered physical abuse. Sergei and Olga Brislavski are married and are the parents of Yekaterina.

Sharofat ALLAMOVA

Place of residence: Urgench [Urganch] in Uzbekistan's north-western Khorezm Region

Date & Place of arrest: 4th January 2013

Charges: Illegal distribution of religious literature

First court decision: One and half years of corrective labor

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 244-3, "illegal production, storage, import or distribution of religious literature"

Other information: By the end of 2013, the case was still pending on appeal.

Tohar HAYDAROV

Age: 27 years

Place of residence: Gulistan

Date of Arrest: 18th January 2010

Charges: Illegal production purchase, storage and other operation with narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances without the purpose of selling

Statement of the defendants: The case has been fabricated and the police planted the drugs on him.

Place of detention: UYa 64/49 otryad 13 pos. Shaikh-Ali g. Karshi, Kashkadarya Region, Uzbekistan

First court decision: On 9th March 2010 he was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 276 Part 2a.m., Uzbekistan Criminal Code

Other information: The charges are believed to have been fabricated and came after relatives asked local police to help them force Tohar to return to Islam.

Jehovah's Witnesses

Abdubannob AHMEDOV

Age: 34 years

Place of residence: Fergana Region, eastern Uzbekistan

Date & Place of arrest: 23rd July 2008 in the court room

Charges: Carrying literature that contradicts the principles of tolerance, inter-religious accord and the laws of the Republic; restarting the previously-halted activity of an illegal religious organization of Jehovah's Witnesses and active participation in its activity, disobeying orders while in Tashkent Region's Tavaksay Prison

Place of detention: Kattakurgan in Samarkand Region

First court decision: On 23rd July 2008 he was sentenced to three and a half years in prison by a Criminal Court in Fergana.

Last court decisions: Sentenced to four years and seven months from July 2008 for the illegal exercise of freedom of religion or belief. Shortly before the end of his first jail sentence in July 2012, he was given another 30 months in jail for allegedly violating prison regulations.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Criminal Code Article 216: illegal organization of public associations or religious organizations. Criminal Code Article 221, part 2b: disobedience to the legal orders of the administration of punishment institutions or other obstruction to the administration in performing its functions by a person serving a penalty in institutions of confinement. If the person has been penalized with confinement to a solitary cell or to a prison for violation of penal security regulations within one year, that person may be convicted for a serious or very serious crime with imprisonment from three to five years.

Date of release: 2nd March 2013, twenty-two months before the end of his last term.

VIETNAM

Hmong Christians

TRANG A Cho, GIANG A Long, LI A Di, HAU A Giang

Charges: Activities aimed at overthrowing the People's Government

Final court decision: On 12th December 2012 Cho was sentenced to seven years while the other three were all given three years in prison.

Other information: They were among the five thousand Hmong who on 30th April 2011 had gathered near Huoi Khonm (Dien Bien Province) to perform prayer rituals and to demand religious freedom.

Pentecostal

NGUYEN Trung Ton

Charges: Propaganda against the socialist state

Statement of the defendant: Nguyen Trung Ton is a leader of a Pentecostal house church. He has carried out missionary activities and advocacy for dispossessed farmers.

Final Court decision: On 29th December 2011 he was sentenced to two years followed by a two-year period of house arrest.

Other information: Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton has often been harassed and beaten by security police. He is also a signatory of the Bloc 8406 Democracy Movement Manifesto.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION RELATED TO RELIGIOUS ISSUES

Blasphemy, defamation of a religion, insulting religious beliefs

Charges of “blasphemy,” “defamation of a religion” and “insulting religious beliefs” must be removed from the criminal code of countries which sentence to death or send to prison persons using their freedom of expression about religious issues.

The countries here listed are **Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia** and **Turkey**.

EGYPT

Copts

Demyana Ebeid ABD EL NOUR

Age: 24 years old

Place of residence: Luxor

Date & Place of arrest: 8th May 2013

Charges: Accused of insulting Islam and Prophet Muhammad

Article of the criminal code: Article 98 of the Penal Code: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Statement of the defendant: Taught a class on the history of Egypt during the Pharaohs

Last court decision: 11th June 2013, condemned to pay a fine of 100,000 Egyptian Pounds (10,866 Euro).

Duration of the detention: Originally ordered to be held for four days, but this was extended by 15 more days on 11th May 2013.

Other information: Demiana started a hunger strike on 10th May 2013. She was released on a very high bail of 20,000 EGP (2177 Euro)

Makram DIAB

Age: 49 years

Date of Arrest: February 2012

Charges: Insulting the Prophet and provoking students

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE 500 (\$70)

Statement of the defendant: Saying to a Salafi Muslim that Muhammad had more than four wives, which resulted in an argument

Place of detention: Assiut General Prison

First court decision: 29th February 2012, sentenced to six years in prison

Last court decision: On 16th March and 4th April 2012, two appeals were rejected.

Other information: The first trial lasted only 10 minutes and no defense attorney was present. The first appeal process triggered a massive riot by Muslim attorneys.

Bishoy KAMEL

Charges: Posting cartoons deemed defamatory to Islam and the Prophet Mohammed on Facebook as well as insulting President Mohamed Morsi and his family

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Last court decision: July 2012, six years in prison

Ayman Youssef MANSOUR

Age: 22 years old

Charges: Insulting the dignity of the Islamic religion, promoting extremist ideas and inciting sectarianism

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Statement of the defendants: Posting on Facebook (no details provided)

First court decision: October 2011, sentenced to three years in prison

Gamal Abdu MASSOUD

Age: 17 years old

Place of residence: Assiut

Charges: Blasphemy, defaming Islam and inciting riots

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Statement of the defendants: Posting cartoons mocking Islam and the Prophet Muhammad on Facebook in December 2011 and distributing the images to other students

First court decision: 4th April 2012, sentenced to three years in prison

Last court decision: Appeal lost

Nabil RIZK and Mina FARAG

Ages: 10 and 9 respectively

Date of arrest: October 2012

Charges: Tearing up a copy of the Quran

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Place of detention: Juvenile detention center

Date of release: Unknown

Romani Murad SAAD

Place of residence: Province of Assiut

Charges: Ridiculing Islam's holy book, the Quran, at the lawyers union library

Last court decision: 1st June 2013, sentenced to one year in prison and a 500 EGP fine as well as 10,000 EGP as a temporary civil compensation to the plaintiffs

Other information: Sentenced in absentia

Alber SABER (Ayad)

Date of arrest: 13th September 2012

Charges: Blasphemy and contempt of religion

Article of the criminal code: Article 98: anyone offending religion in any form can face up to six years in prison and be fined up to LE500 (\$70)

Statement of the defendants: Sharing an anti-Islam film (Innocence of Muslims) on social networking sites (Facebook)

First court decision: Sentenced to three years in prison

Last court decision: On 25th January 2013 a Cairo court upheld the lower court's verdict.

Muslim

Abu ISLAM - Salafi Preacher

Charges: Insulting Christianity, vandalizing a Bible and disturbing public security

First court decision: Nasr City Misdemeanor Court – 11 years in prison. Bail set at LE3000 as settlement

Last court decision: Three years in prison and a LE10,000 fine for insulting Christianity

Other information: The court also sentenced Abdallah's son to eight years in prison for complicity with his father.

INDONESIA

Atheist

Alexander AAN

Age: 31 years old

Place of residence: Pulau Punjung

Date of arrest: January 2012

Charges: Spreading religious hatred

Statement of the defendants: Posting “God does not exist” on Facebook, posting cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad and starting an atheist page

First court decision: 14th June 2012, sentenced to 30 months in prison and a fine of 100 million rupiah (about 10,600USD)

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: 2008 electronic transactions law

Other information: Charges of blasphemy (Penal Code Article 156a) and promoting atheism (Penal Code Article 156b) have been dismissed.

Shi’a Muslims

Andreas GUNTUR

Place of residence: Pulau Punjung

Charges: Blasphemy

First court decision: 11th March 2012, sentenced to four years in prison

Other information: Belongs to Amanat Keagungan Ilahi against which the Indonesia Council of Ulema issued a fatwah in 2009, claiming that the movement rejected conventional Islamic rituals

Tajul MULUK

Place of residence: Sampang, East Java

Charges: Blasphemy and “causing public anxiety”

Statement of the defendant: Asserting that the current version of the Quran is not the original one and questioning belief concerning the five pillars of Islam and six pillars of Islamic faith.

Court decision: 12th July 2012, sentenced to two years in prison

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Penal Code (KUHP) under Article 156a and the 1965 presidential decree against blasphemy by promoting a heretical interpretation of Islam

Christian

Antonius Richmond BAWENGEAN

Place of residence: Jakarta

Date of Arrest: 26th October 2010

Charges: Blasphemy

Statement of the defendants: Distributing pamphlets that allegedly disparaged the Kaaba.

Court decision: 8th February 2011, sentenced to five years in prison

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Penal Code (KUHP), Article 156. Paragraph (a)

IRAN

Zoroastrian

Pouria SHAHPARI

Date of Arrest: 22nd August 2011

Charges: Blasphemy and propaganda for Zoroastrianism

First court decision: Sentenced to two and a half years in prison and 74 lashes

PAKISTAN

The 2013 Annual Report of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has released a list of 79 prisoners² detained for alleged activities considered blasphemous or religiously insulting. A number of them have death sentences pending or are in the process of appeal. Others were sentenced to life in prison for violation of Pakistan's blasphemy laws. One Christian (Ms. Ruqiya Bibi) has been acquitted of all charges.

Catholics

Shafqat MASIH, Shaguftah MASIH

Age: 43 years, 40 years

Place of residence: Gojra

Date of arrest: 20th July 2013

Charges: Blasphemy messages sent from his mobile telephone to an imam and causing annoyance

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Filed by police, Section 295-B and 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code and 25-D of The Telegraph Act of 1985

Statement of the defendants: Shaguftah told the police that his cell phone had been lost for a month and that she did not know who could have sent the messages.

Place of detention: Toba Tek Singh District Jail

Other information: With an intention of forcing them to confess, the police tortured Shafqat in front of his wife and four children.

²See the list at <http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Appendices%20Combined.pdf>

Protestants

Asia BIBI

Age: 37 years old

Place of residence: Ittanwali

Date of arrest: 19th June 2009

Charges: Blasphemy

Statement of the defendant: She drank water from a well with a cup used by Muslim women

Final court decision: November 2010, sentenced to death

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Subsection C of Pakistan's 295 blasphemy law

Other information: No Christian in Pakistan has ever been executed under the blasphemy law.

Barkat MASIH

Age: 56 years

Place of residence: Bahawalpur in Punjab province

Date of arrest: 1st October 2011

Charges: Blasphemy

Place of detention; Bahawalpur District Jail

Final court decision: 28th January 2013, Judge Javed Ahmed of Bahawalpur High Court upheld the appeal and acquitted Masih

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 295 C of the Pakistan Penal Code

Date of release: Unknown

Sajjad MASIH (Seventh-day Adventist)

Age: 29 years

Place of residence: Pakpattan district

Date of arrest: 28th December 2011

Charges: Sending blasphemous text messages from a mobile phone to Muslim clerics and others in Gojra town

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Blasphemy under Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code; for insulting Muhammad

Last court decision: Court in Punjab's Toba Tek Singh district, life imprisonment (25 years) and a fine of \$2,000

Other: SIM card registered in the name of Masih's former fiancée, Roma. No eye witness or forensic proof provided. Islamists were demanding death penalty.

SAUDI ARABIA

Muslim

Hamza KASHGARI

Age: 25 years

Date and Place of arrest: February 2012

Charges: Informally for apostasy and blasphemy. He said he would not bow before Mohammed on his birthday

Statement of the defendant: Made comments on Twitter which were deemed insulting to the Prophet Mohammad.

Duration of detention: 20 months in prison

Date of release: 29th October 2013

Other information: After threats to his life he fled to Malaysia in February 2012. After a few days, Malaysian authorities deported him back to Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia's highest official clerics have declared Kashgari guilty of apostasy based on his now-deleted tweets and called for him to be put to death. He remains in detention in Jeddah awaiting formal charges and a trial.

Raif BADAWI

Age: 30 years old

Charges: Insulting Islam

Statement of the defendant: Raif stated that Muslims, Jews, Christians and atheists are all equal. He claims he never attacked Islam and that he only sought to provide a forum for open debate.

Last court decision: On 29th July 2013 Badawi was sentenced 600 lashes and seven years in prison. An additional 3 months was added for 'parental disobedience'

Duration of the detention: 20 months

Other information: Raif was sentenced to five years for insulting Islam and two years for insulting Saudi Arabia's Committee for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice. The lashes will be given in four installments of 150 lashes with hospitalization after each set in order to prevent his likely death if administered all at once.

Turki AL-HAMAD

Age: 58 years

Date and Place of arrest: December 2012

Statement of the defendant: Publishing a series of tweets calling for the reform of Islamist teachings

Last court decision: No official trial

Duration of the detention: Five months

Date of release: May 2013

SYRIA

Muslim

Mohammed QATAA

Age: 14 years old

Place of residence: Aleppo

Date & Place of arrest: 10th June 2013

Charges: Blasphemy

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Death according to Sharia law

Statement of the defendants: Someone asked Mohammed for a free cup of coffee. He replied jokingly "Not even if the Prophet himself returns."

Other information: Public extra-judiciary execution by an Islamist rebel militia. "Whoever insults the Prophet will be killed according to Sharia" shouted one of three armed men who heard Mohammed make a comment they considered blasphemy before shooting him. "Even if the Prophet Mohammad returns, I will not become a believer."

TANZANIA

Christian

Eva ABDALLAH

Age: 18 years old

Charges: Urinating on a Koran, blasphemy

Statement of the defendant: Changed her religion from Islam to Christianity

First court decision: 23rd July 2012, sentenced to two years imprisonment

Final court decision: On 9th January 2013 the High Court of Tanzania ruled that Eva was not guilty and released her.

Other information: She now lives in hiding.

TUNISIA

Muslim

Jabeur MEJRI

Date & Place of arrest: 5th March 2012

Charges: Blasphemy

Statement of the defendant: Published caricatures of the Prophet Mohammed, including one which portrayed a pig sleeping on the Kaaba

First court decision: On 15th March 2012 a primary court in Mahdia sentenced him to seven and a half years in prison and a fine of 1200 Tunisian Dinars (≈USD \$800).

Last court decision: On 25th April 2013 the Court of Cassation upheld his sentence.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code or law: Article 121 (3) and 226 of Penal Code

Other information: Mejri has lost all appeals. In November, the President said that he would release him but as of 31st December, Mejri was still in prison.

TURKEY

Sevan NIŞANYAN

Charges: Publicly insulting the religious beliefs of a part of the population

Statement of the defendant: He had written on his blog: “Mocking an Arab leader who centuries ago claimed to have contacted God and made political, financial and sexual benefits out of this is not a crime of hatred. It is an almost kindergarten-level case of what we call freedom of expression.”

First court decision: Decision of the Istanbul Court on 22 May 2013, 13 months in prison

Fazil SAY

Age: 43 years old

Charges: Insulting religious beliefs of a part of the population

Statement of the defendant: Re-tweeting several lines attributed to poet Omar Khayyam - “You say its rivers will flow in wine. Is the Garden of Eden a drinking house? You say you will give two hours to each Muslim. Is the Garden of Eden a whorehouse?”

First court decision: 10 months in prison

Last court decision: Sentence suspended for two years.

CONCLUSIONS

On 24 June 2013, the Council of the European Union adopted the Guidelines on the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief, committing the EU to:

- recall at all appropriate occasions that laws that criminalize blasphemy restrict expression concerning religious or other beliefs; that they are often applied so as to persecute, mistreat or intimidate persons belonging to religious or other minorities, and that they can have a serious inhibiting effect on freedom of expression and on freedom of religion or belief; and recommend the decriminalization of such offences.
- Forcefully advocate against the use of the death penalty, physical punishment, or deprivation of liberty as penalties for blasphemy.

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