



***"God will judge us not  
according to how much we endured,  
but how much we could love."***

~ Rev. Richard Wurmbrand

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## EGYPT: Church Attacked by Mob

Sources: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, Manassa News

On July 8th, dozens of local residents had gathered to protest a Coptic church in the Upper Egyptian village of El-Tal El-Qibliya. As the demonstration escalated, the mob threw stones and shouted insults at church members. Several Christians were injured in the attack, and both the church building and the priest's vehicle sustained damages.

Police were deployed to the area and eventually succeeded in stabilizing the situation. In the aftermath, four Christian men were arrested, along with an unknown number of Muslim protesters. The detained believers were released two days later after withdrawing their complaint against those responsible for the attack.

Sadly, this is not the only difficulty faced by members of this church. For many years, Coptic Christians in the village did not have a church building and instead met together in various homes. Eventually, a building was designated as their place of worship with the full knowledge of local residents and security personnel. However, some community members have since expressed opposition to the gatherings. Prior to the recent attack, the priest – Father Pavlos Kamal – had reportedly notified authorities about threats that had been made against the church.

While the Egyptian constitution upholds freedom of worship and belief, there have been several instances of localized opposition against Christian communities. To review previously published reports concerning the persecution of Christians in Egypt, visit our [country profile](#).



A Coptic church building in Egypt.  
Photo: Flickr / Andrew A. Shenouda ([CC](#))

- ***Prayerfully uphold those who were injured and traumatized during the attack, asking the Lord to provide each one of them needed healing, comfort and encouragement.***
  - ***Also pray that the funds and practical resources required to repair the mentioned damages to property will be provided.***
  - ***May there be a greater understanding and peaceful coexistence between Muslims and Christians throughout Egypt, enabling them to respect and honour one another despite their differing religious affiliations.***
  - ***Additionally, please intercede on behalf of the governing committees responsible for approving Christian places of worship in Egypt, praying that they would carry out their responsibilities with fairness, wisdom and efficiency, so that believers can gather freely and without unnecessary delays.***
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## CHINA: Multiple House Churches Raided

Source: ChinaAid

Police carried out coordinated raids on multiple house churches in the city of Yueyang, Hunan Province, on July 11th. Numerous church members were taken into custody for interrogation. During the detainment, the authorities collected fingerprints, DNA samples, voice recordings and written statements.

The interrogated Christians were asked to read a prepared statement as part of the voice-identification process. One woman with poor eyesight declined but was instead permitted to offer a prayer of blessing. According to the wife of Pastor Huang Lei, Bibles and Christian books were also confiscated during the raids. Some of those questioned are concerned that the incidents could potentially jeopardize their positions of employment.

Most of those taken in for interrogation were released within 48 hours. However, at last report, six church leaders and ministry workers currently remain in detention. For more information on the mistreatment of followers of Jesus in China, including access to previously posted video recordings, go to our [country profile](#).



Church leaders in Yueyang, Hunan Province  
Photo via ChinaAid

- ***Pray that God's protection, strength and peace will rest upon the members of these raided churches as they face the possibility of further repercussions for their faith in Christ.***
- ***Ask the Lord to encourage and sustain the six believers remaining in detainment, granting them wisdom, courage and hope as they await their hopeful soon release and the opportunity to be reunited with their loved ones.***
- ***May our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters throughout China remain steadfast in their witness – all the while, reflecting God's love, truth and grace to those around them.***

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## REPORT UPDATE

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### RUSSIA: Child Evangelism Fellowship Designated as "Undesirable"

Source: Voice of the Martyrs Korea (VOMK)

The American-based ministry, Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), was recently added to Russia's list of "undesirable organizations." This decision creates serious risks for CEF workers in the country, as well as for the churches and organizations currently using the ministry's materials.

One such worker is Park Tae-yeon, who was arrested on January 15th and is now facing charges that could result in a prison sentence of up to 17 years. The retired missionary's trial is scheduled to begin on July 28th. See [more details](#) on her case.

The decision to designate CEF as an "undesirable organization" was made on July 6th. No explanation was provided for the ministry's inclusion on the list. According to Dr. Hyun Sook Foley of VOMK, possessing or distributing the ministry's materials, providing financial support, or maintaining any other form of association with CEF could result in criminal charges.



Ms. Park Tae-yeon  
Photo: VOM Korea

While Ms. Park's charges are related to immigration matters, and CEF has not been mentioned in her indictment, those following the case are concerned that it may be used to gather information about individuals, churches and organizations with ties to the ministry.

- ***In addition to praying for the Lord to strengthen and encourage Ms. Park as her trial approaches, ask that His mighty intervention would take place during the court proceedings relating to this retired missionary's case, so she will soon be able to return home to South Korea as originally planned.***
- ***May God grant wisdom, discernment and protection to Christian ministries throughout Russia that are seeking to share the Gospel message with children amid increasing challenges.***
- ***Pray that believers residing in this vast country will stand firm in their faith, and that our Almighty God's church throughout Russia would continue to grow in strength, unity and fruitfulness.***

The "Persecution & Prayer Alert" is a ministry of:  
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