



## Persecution & Prayer Alert

The Voice of the Martyrs Canada  
www.vomcanada.com

Thursday, November 29, 2018

*"The Christian, even when  
he is condemned, gives thanks."*

~ Tertullian

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### **KENYA: "Recant or Face the Sword"**

Source: Morning Star News

After a family in the small town of Garsen put their faith in Christ earlier this month, they began to receive threats from Muslims in the area. According to Abdul Abuk-Bakr, they were given a day to either renounce their Christian faith or face severe consequences.

The incident began when Abdul was visited by an area pastor on November 3rd. He had been suffering from a serious illness for more than two months and found no help from doctors. After hearing about the situation, the pastor prayed for the married father of two who miraculously received instant healing.

The next day, Abdul's entire family decided to place their faith in Christ. The church joyfully welcomed each of them, and the news of their conversion spread rapidly. That same day, these new believers began receiving threats that their rented home and land would be taken from them and that their lives were in danger.

Two days later, after refusing to recant, the family sought refuge on the church property. Since then, the couple have moved from one Christian home to another while their children were hidden in another location. "We have decided to take our two children, ages 4 and 5, to a good Samaritan's home. Though they are missing our love at their tender ages, their security is more important," says Abdul. "At times, we are missing peace. My wife has been having sleepless nights thinking about the children. We really need prayers to remain in the Christian faith and the peace that comes from God."

*Please keep Abdul and his wife in your prayers, as they struggle to find peace and safety. Also pray for their young children who've been forced to be away from their parents. As we praise God for the family's new-found faith in Christ and the faithfulness of the church in helping them, ask for His divine protection and blessings to be on each one. May those opposing the Gospel have their spiritual eyes opened to the hope that's available through Christ who longs to be their Saviour too.*

### **NIGERIA: Tribal Leader Kidnapped and Executed**

Sources: Release International, Vanguard Media, Media Trust

Nigerians from various areas of the country are facing threats and attacks from members of the Boko Haram terrorist group. Last month, a market in Kaduna erupted into violence and threats, leading to clashes between Christian and Muslim youth. As a result, 55 people were killed and, subsequently, numerous arrests have been made.

Grieved over this terrible situation, a tribal leader of the area, Dr. Raphael Maiwada Galadima, visited the site. However, as he was leaving, his entourage was attacked by a group of men who ended up killing four security escorts and kidnapping Dr. Galadima. Despite a ransom being paid for the leader's negotiated release, he was executed on October 26th. This is the second Christian community leader who has been kidnapped and murdered in Kaduna state this year.

During the funeral on November 10th, Archbishop Matthew Man-Oso Ndagoso called on all people to seek peace. He challenged them by saying the war is not between Christians and Muslims. Instead, as the church leader further explained, "Our country is at war with fanatics, kidnappers, terrorists and opportunists who are criminals in every sense of the word."

At last report, six suspects have been arrested in connection with the kidnapping and murder. At least one is known to be a member of Boko Haram. For more details on the situation facing Christians in Nigeria, go to [www.vomcanada.com/nigeria](http://www.vomcanada.com/nigeria).

*Pray for peace in Nigeria. Uphold the church leaders as they encourage their youth to not repay with violence nor seek any other form of vengeance. Remember the country's government leaders and police as they seek to establish order, protect innocent citizens, and stop the threats of rebels seeking dissension and harm. Also, keep in prayer those still in captivity, such as Leah Sharibu. (A previous report on Leah's situation is available at [www.vomcanada.com/ng-leah-sharibu.htm](http://www.vomcanada.com/ng-leah-sharibu.htm).)*

## REPORT UPDATE

### **ERITREA: Prisoner's One Request**

Sources: VOM Australia, Release International, VOM USA

Twen Theodros has spent 13 years behind bars in Eritrea. Despite having suffered brutal treatment, this young woman, who is described as a "precious, lovely Christian" by those who know her, is more concerned about others than for her own well-being. Those familiar with Helen Berhane may know Twen as "Esther."

Imprisoned in the same shipping container, Twen would care for Helen, washing her wounds, feeding her, even taking beatings in her place. VOMC's ministry partner, Release International, had recently managed to find out through contacts how she is doing in prison and request specific ways we can pray for her. Twen's reply was simple yet deeply humbling. She had only one prayer request, and that was for *God to be glorified in Eritrea!*

Twen, who is in her 30s, as well as other Eritrean prisoners of faith, need our prayers. Pray for their release, but also that they would remain in unity while awaiting freedom from imprisonment. At times, there can be conflict among the prisoners, simply for being locked up together in such a confined space for 24 hours, day after day, while enduring inhumane conditions.

To learn more about Twen, and even write her a letter, visit [www.bit.ly/2zvf8xO](http://www.bit.ly/2zvf8xO). A book featuring Helen Berhane's biography is also available for purchase at [www.bit.ly/2Aw9YI7](http://www.bit.ly/2Aw9YI7).

*If you would like to post a prayer of praise or petition on behalf of our persecuted family around the globe, visit VOMC's prayer wall at [www.vomcanada.com/prayerwall.htm](http://www.vomcanada.com/prayerwall.htm).*

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If you would like to encourage someone to read or receive this weekly prayer alert, please use our online form at [www.vomcanada.com/pnpforward.htm](http://www.vomcanada.com/pnpforward.htm) and help spread the message of the persecuted church around the world.

For information on additional ways to support members of the persecuted church overseas, review the list of options at [www.vomcanada.com/take-action.htm](http://www.vomcanada.com/take-action.htm).