



GLOBAL PRAYER

MAY 21, 2017

INDONESIA: Governor Imprisoned for Alleged Blasphemy



In a tense trial that was widely seen as a test of religious tolerance in the world's largest Muslim-majority nation, **Basuki Tjahaja Purnama** (popularly known as "Ahok"), has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for alleged blasphemy. The May 9th sentence of the Jakarta governor was harsher than expected and has come as a shock to many of his supporters. TV news coverage of the scene outside the court showed some supporters weeping. Ahok was charged with blasphemy after saying that clerics had used a verse from the Quran to mislead voters by telling them that Muslims were not allowed to vote for a Christian. He has denied any wrongdoing, explaining that he was not criticizing the Quran, but rather the clerics' interpretation of the verse. His lawyers plan to appeal the ruling. Thousands of police have been deployed across the capital in case clashes break out between Ahok's supporters and militant Islamists who demanded he be sacked and jailed over the allegations. Although the Indonesian government was criticized for not doing enough to protect religious minorities, President Joko Widodo, a key ally of Ahok, had urged restraint over the trial and called for all sides to respect the legal process.

INDIA: Alarming Rise in Targeted Attacks



According to a newly published report, attacks against Christians in India have arisen at an alarming rate. The All India Christian Council recorded an increase of almost 20 percent in attacks against Christians within the year of 2016 alone. The report also indicates that physical violence against believers is up by 40 percent and murders have doubled. The report titled Atrocities on Christians in India reveals that, on average, an attack has taken place every 40 hours. And the violent occurrences are no longer confined to a few Indian states but have now spread to 23 states. These recorded attacks include church workers being beaten, threatened and/or killed; as well as churches and Christian schools being bombed, torched, vandalized and/or demolished. Reflected in a notable number of these cases were attempts by extremists to force Christians to renounce their faith and convert to Hinduism. Right-wing Hindu nationalism has been gaining ground politically in the country, particularly since the Bharatiya Janata Party took power in 2014. This especially affects Dalit Hindus who convert to Christianity, even though this group falls outside the caste system. Still classed as "untouchables," they continue to face oppression within Indian society. However, India's caste system today goes beyond Hinduism as it also exists in many of the country's other religions.

SUDAN: Newest Release of Christian Prisoners!



After 510 days in prison, **Rev. Hassan Abduraheem and Mr. Abdulmonem Abdumawla**, whom were both initially sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment, have recently been released after receiving presidential pardon. The two men were arrested in December 2015, along with VOM's Czech ministry partner **Petr Jasek and fellow Christian Rev. Kuwa Shamal**. Rev. Shamal was acquitted of all charges and released in January, while Petr Jasek was released in February, after also being granted presidential pardon. "My joy is now complete as they are free as well," Petr gratefully announced following news of their release. Petr spoke to Rev. Abduraheem at about midnight local time following his release. "He told me that both he and Abdulmonem were in good health, and excited and so happy to be free. He also expressed thanks to all those who had pushed their case." Acknowledging the Lord's ability to use their incarceration for His higher purposes, Rev. Abduraheem added that he had no regrets about his time in prison. He was able to encourage Christians in Sudan's various prisons, while his imprisonment also served to encourage and embolden the Sudanese church as a whole. The recently freed pastor mentioned in his conversation with Petr that he had already forgiven those who interrogated and imprisoned him, and that he felt no anger or bitterness. Rev. Aduraheem then sincerely added, "I pray that the Lord Jesus would reveal Himself to them as Lord and Savior."

PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

Mike and Renee Delorenzo – AIM (working in Atlanta)

The Muhotas in Kenya

Jonathan, Jodi, Jessica, Joshua, Joseph & Josiah Thar – Taiwan

The Churo School

The Sterns – Argentina via International Teams

The Gideons

C&MA: Carolyn Thorson – Gabon; The Wendels – Latin America; Westergrens – Spain; Cheryl P – Germany; Brian W – Malaysia; The Iversons – Taiwan; Dee Krueger – Guinea; M M – Israel; T & K – Bosnia; Livingstons – Ivory Coast

OTHER MISSIONARY FRIENDS OF CANAAN

Beryl J. Pierce, Major, Salvation Army (Kinzi Wass Pierce's mother-in-law) – Zambia; **Christon & Kinzie Pierce** – Salvation Army – Logansport; **Kirk & Janis Reynolds**, Navigators (Kowalski) – Chicago Regional Ethnic Ministry; **Steve, Heather, Austin & Evan Webb** (Leonard & Linda Webb's son) – Thailand; **Jeff & April Davies** – Captivated Praise; **Vincent Mekubo** pastor & teacher of orphans in the Kissi-Kingoris area.



Amelia Delorenzo – AIM

Many of you know me. My name is Amelia Delorenzo, and I am a missionary kid. My parents, **Mike and Renee**, have served with Africa Inland Mission (AIM) since 1997; most of that time was spent in East Africa, and more recently they've been working at the head office in Peachtree City, Georgia. I was raised in Nairobi, Kenya, where we lived until 2015. When I was eight years old I accepted the Lord as my savior, and since then I've thought of little else but following my parents' footsteps and pursuing a life of ministry. Those desires have developed into something deeper as I've grown in my relationship with the Lord. I am graduating high school on May 20th, and have been accepted to Toccoa Falls College in Georgia, where I will be double majoring in Bible and Theology and Intercultural Studies, starting the fall of 2018. My hope is that those two focuses will help round my knowledge of God's Word and better prepare me to go out into the world. But before I begin that chapter, I've decided to take a year between high school and college to prayerfully consider the direction God wants me to take, to work, and to get some first-hand experience with ministry and hopefully learn things that I may not be able to learn in a classroom. God has opened up some exciting doors for me. I have recently been accepted with AIM as a short-term missionary to take part in an 8-week missions internship in Clarkston, Georgia this summer. Clarkston has been described as the "most diverse square mile in America" – it is a city where refugees from all over the world come to as their first step into life in America. They face many challenges and the opportunities to minister among them are endless. This summer I'll go with AIM and Global Frontier Missions (GFM) to live and work alongside ethnic churches and inner-city missionaries as they serve among the 90+ unreached people groups right here in Georgia. Please pray for God's provision and my preparation. Pray that God will use this time to mold me more into the person He wants me to become, and that I'll be stretched to learn and grow as I minister to refugees in Clarkston. My time in Clarkston will begin on May 27.



Simon & Margaret Muhota –Far Corners World Missions -- Kenya – Abba's House



Simon Muhota is a pastor for the African Inland Church in the Kijabe area. He is in charge of a district that includes 100 churches and 50 pastors. While receiving his Master's degree in Pastoral Care in Trinity Divinity University in Deerfield, IL, Simon and his wife Margaret felt the call to serve God by administering to the needs of the growing number of orphans in Kenya due to political unrest and AIDS. Simon returned to Kenya in 2001. He immediately was impressed by the number of children who were orphaned and crying. Shortly after that

God provided a sum of money to Simon. After conducting research about land acquisition he located a five acre plot in a hillside community well suited for an orphanage. Thus began the Crying Children of Africa project.

CANAAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER CONCERNS MAY 21, 2017

SPOTLIGHT FAMILIES FOR WEEK OF MAY 21 – MAY 27, 2017

Pray for one another.....

✠ Ron & Sharon Beasley ✠ Rita Bedwell ✠ Audrey Birtchman
✠ Recent Visitors: Jim & Jolly Piersall, Hannah, Mica & Lizzie

PRAISES

Praise God for Simon & Margaret Muhota & their work to further God's kingdom in Kenya!

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST

Marilee Skillern's granddaughter, **Elizabeth (3)**, is scheduled for surgery July 6th to correct eye muscles. **Jim Davidson** as he adjusts to his new work schedule and route. **Donna Draper** is recovering from successful surgery for basal cell carcinoma on her nose. **Bea Jones' brother, Dale**, is home but still on antibiotics for staph infection. His chemo has been postponed to June. **Becky Brush** (Sharon Black's sister) is now in rehab. **Kim Hyten** in his job search. **Pray** for the hiring process of the Associate Pastor God has chosen for us. **Pray** for families in crisis. **Health concerns: Kathy Thompson; Bob Mitchem; Rich Roth; Sumner Brown; Marianne Ash; Sue Neier; Kay Dlugos; Pam Miller; Miller's granddaughter, Natalie; Rita Bedwell's step-daughter, Crystal; Wass' daughter-in-law, Vickie, (Crohn's & ulcers); Pastor Buddy Goss, New Winchester Baptist, (diabetes, kidney & heart problems), his wife, Phyllis. Dealing with pain: Vicki Kendall; Ann Nesbitt; Debbie Arney; Bob Mitchem; Sharon Doty; Mike Black; Rich Roth; Kay Dlugos; Claudia Wooden; Donna Draper.**

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Adria Stephens – (Beard's grandtr)	Mitchell Stephens, Adria's husband – stateside
Rob Skillern— deployed to Kuwait	Christopher Barger (Ron's grandson) –Iraq
Robbie Skillern—stateside	Andrew Schwarz – airborne/ranger school (Gruner)
Carlos Kline, USMC (Raley's grandson) Afghanistan	Todd (friend of Mike Anderson)
Daniel Wass, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana	Jared Holtane – Iraq
Brad Royer – Marine Boot Camp	

KEEPING OUR PARTNER CHURCHES IN PRAYER

Local Church Fellowship Cluster

Lighthouse Fellowship (Coatesville)
New Winchester Baptist
Calvary Chapel Fellowship (H Lake/ Greencastle)
Bainbridge Christian Church
Roachdale Christian Church
Lifespring Christian Church
Whitestone Christian Church
Greencastle fellowship of churches

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Ashley Arney	Jaclyn Davidson
Haley Purcell	Virginia Muhota
Jonathon Redman	Anna Simms
Claire Simms	Rachel Simms
Olivia Benner (Roth)	

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CANCER CONCERNS

Claudia Wooden	Sue Neier (breast, bladder)
Tracy Morehead (Rick Miller's sister)	Judy McEachern, Kathy Thompson's sister
Cheryl Roth (Rich's sister-in-law)	Bob Srstka (Brenda Anderson's uncle)
Bob Stern (missionary) leukemia	Avery (6) (Marilee Skillern's gr grandtr)
Tammy Richman (Bonnie Gibbs)	Jerry Morris (Eric Young)
Sarah Dvorak (15) (Jaclyn Davidson)	Mel Medin (Anderson)
Kathryn Spiars	Dawn (Cindy Ware's stepdaughter)
Joe Shepherd (HL resident)	Natalie Ring (Beasley's daughter)
Paulita Ream	Larry Dalton & Morgan Myers Audrey B
Gary (Donna Draper)	Heidi, Linda, Joe, Aliza (Kowalski)
Heather (Pastor Kevin's sister)	Carolyn Ditto
Kelly (Collins) Thompson (Zac's mom)	Lucille (Kitzie)
Leanne (Mitchem's daughter)	Kay Dlugos
Sue & Elizabeth, Roth's daughter & niece	Jeff (Marilee's brother)
Dale McCloud (Bea Jones' brother)	