3rd

INDIAN CHRISTIAN MARTYRDOM DAY
22nd JULY 2019
PERSECUTIONS, AFFLICTIONS, WHICH HAPPENED TO ME AT ANTIOCH, AT ICONIUM, AT LYSTRA—WHAT PERSECUTIONS I ENDURED. AND OUT OF THEM ALL THE LORD DELIVERED ME.

2 TIMOTHY 3:11
Chief Editor's Note

Indian Christian Martyrdom Day

Persecution & Relief

Half-Year Statistics

Adam’s Rib – The Woman caught in adultery

Article - Meet Vanitha Muthayya

Article - Moon landing

Global Persecution News
Thank you


We instituted “Indian Christian Martyrdom Day” on the 22nd of July, to commemorate, acknowledge and honour the sacrifice made by the families of our Martyrs. At this Annual Event, we remembered all the Martyrs who lost their lives defending their faith in Jesus Christ; whose life and death, preached the loudest messages in the face of religious oppression. They have been the most effective end time evangelists.

First and foremost, by the grace and mercy of God, together, we have succeeded in organizing this event for the glory of God, the Body of Christ - His Church. May He increase and may we decrease.

Secondly, our appeal to all Churches, Church Leaders, Bible Colleges, Christian Organizations, Prayer Houses across denominations, Media houses and well-wishers, to partner with us, to observe this day and show appropriate support for victims of religiously motivated violence, was well received. Each one of you have made impressive contributions in your communities, creating awareness about the Christian Martyrs and the Persecuted Church in India. Your contribution was invaluable.
We need to continue to remember and applaud these faithful believers who paid the ultimate price for their witness, honor their families, tell their stories in our Churches, our homes and in our communities. These ‘colossal harbingers of our faith’, lived a life worthy of the calling, who despite the senseless brutality, stood resolute and faced death.

Article 25 of Indian Constitution, grants freedom to every citizen of India, to profess, practice and propagate his own religion. The Constitution, in the preamble, professes to secure to all its citizen’s, liberty of belief, faith and worship.

We at Persecution Relief, deem it our responsibility and duty, to propel our brethren, to be renewed in taking up our cross daily, no matter what it might cost us.

We applaud the UN General Assembly for adopting a resolution designating 22nd August 2019, as International Day commemorating the “Victims of Violence Based on Religion or Belief”, around the world, which will be observed around the world for the first time this year.

Friends, do not turn your back to this opportunity to ‘Adopt a persecuted family’ or ‘Adopt a Martyred family’. A simple act of lifting up a prayer, will make you a part of joining the cause of serving the body of Christ. I hope you will give this plea your full attention.

Once again, Persecution Relief family appreciates your support and we want to say THANK YOU!

Sincerely, in Jesus Christ,

God bless you

Shibu Thomas
Chief Editor
Voice of the Christians
“INDIAN CHRISTIAN MARTYRDOM DAY 2019” COMMENORATED ACROSS INDIA AND THE WORLD
Delivered from tormenting spirits, Christian couple excommunicated, Bihar

A n Indian couple were brutally beaten, ostracized and punished for becoming Christians by being deprived of water, in a village in Bihar.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”. Eph.6

Susheela was possessed by demons and it was impossible for her to do her daily duties because of the oppression of her body, soul, emotions and mind. Day by day, her condition steadily deteriorated, with diverse medications being prescribed for her. None were able to cure her as she only got bad to worse.

The Village Panchayat directed the Temple priest to help the family, with special pujas but none were able to cure her spiritual state, as she got bad to worse. Admitting that the gods were unable to deliver her, the villagers asked her husband Bro. Sagu Das, to take wherever possible to heal her.

Disappointed, hopeless and beyond any medical help, Bro. Das was told about the prayer meetings at Pastor Mohan Kumar’s place. Desperate and clutching at straws of hope, Das took his wife there.

Pastor Mohan Kumar, an itinerant preacher, with Yesu Bachata Prathana Bhawan (Jesus Saves Prayer Hall), has been ministering at several villages in and around Bihar. He also ministers at his mother in-law, Geetha Devi’s place, at Jankipur village in Amarpur Tehsil, Banka, Bihar. Every week, a several Christian families in the village attend worship service. Pastor also conducts prayer meetings, were a multitude of sick come to receive their miraculous healing.

Susheela was miraculously healed after the tormenting spirit was exorcised from her and completely delivered by the power of Almighty God.

After this life-giving, miraculous experience, the couple totally surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ – who wouldn’t - and became His ardent followers, regularly attending Sunday Worship service, Bible studies and prayer meetings.

However, this did not go down well with the villagers, who, were filled with rage the zeal and fervor of the ‘Christian couple’, the villagers have been harassing them and threatening them with dire consequences if they did not recant their faith in Jesus Christ.

The couple are adamant and steadfast in their new found faith and refusing to turn back.
The belligerent and violent village elders & religious fanatics of Jankipur village in Amarpur Tehsil, Banka, Bihar, have told Bro. Das to either convert back to their original religion or face punishment. When the Christians refused to renounce their faith, the village issued a decree instructing that they were prohibited from fetching water from the public village well, as retaliation for becoming Christians.

In spite of the arduous long distance they had to travel, the couple would fetch water from Pastor Mohan Kumar’s mother-in-laws house.

On Sunday, at around 7.00 am, when the couple were returning home after fetching water, they were rounded up by the villagers and brutally beaten. Later, they were confined and locked up inside the Panchayat Hall.

On hearing the news, Pastor Mohan Kumar and Church members were on their knees, lifting fervent prayers to God. After a few hours, the couple were released.

Pastor Mohan took both of them to the Hospital, for medical treatment to the wounds from the beating.

By the grace of God, they were able to attend Sunday worshop service at Geetha Devi’s residence.

People today believe in witches and fortune-tellers, tarot cards and psychics, reiki and yoga, meditation, mediums and all kinds of evil things that are forbidden by God but they cannot believe that demons and the devil are real.

Church, we are in a spiritual warfare and the battle is the Lords. Let us continue to lift up fervent prayers for Bro. Das and his wife Susheela to continue to be steadfast in their faith, to be the “salt and light” in that village for His namesake.

“Don’t be afraid, the battle is not yours, but God’s. You don’t have to fight in this battle; stand still and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf” (2 Chr. 20:15, 17).

**Relief Provided**

“We are grateful to Persecution Relief for the timely support to meet our medical expenses. God bless this organisation and their ministry.”

**Bro. Sagu Das**
3 Tribal Christian families ostracized, homes vandalized, Chhattisgarh

3 years ago, 3 families of 21 members – including women and children belonging to 3 tribal families: 1) Sariyam Mangi, 2) Puram Nande, and 3) Pamda Joji, live in village Bhodiguda, in District Sukma in Chhattisgarh. All of the adults, are committed followers of Jesus Christ as their Savior.

They live among cluster of houses in village Bhodiguda, in district Sukma, Chhattisgarh. Sukma district is the newly formed, southernmost district in the Indian state of Chhattisgarh. It is located in Bastar. The Sukma district borders with Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Every alternate Sunday, these 3 family’s travels around 20 kms to village Ingaram, to attend Sunday worship service at Christian Assembly Church. Such has been their devotion and dedication.

These families had been facing periodic and severe opposition from the local villagers who have made it their goal to drive out every Christian from the village.

On Sunday, around 9.00 am, before they could leave for Church, a mob of more than 100 villagers and religious fanatics, attacked them. Shouting slogans and abuses, denouncing Christians, they terrorized the families and vandalized all their homes.

Sariyam Mangi, Puram Nande, Pamda Joji and all the 21 members - including children and old parents were persecuted, beaten and their houses were completely vandalized.

Threatened with death, the believers were forced to flee for fear of their lives, they ran away, carrying their young and old ones, abandoning their homes, leaving behind their personal property and possessions.

After considerable time, when they felt the persecutors had left, they returned to find their homes totally vandalized and the houses stripped off their roofs.
With no money or resources to reconstruct their homes, the families spent 2 weeks living out in the open, under trees, hopeless and clueless, on how to get their lives back in order.

The onset of the rains and the cold season, compounded to their hardship and placed the families in further harm’s way as they are unable to protect themselves from the elements.

In spite of their circumstances, their faith and commitment to Jesus Christ, nevertheless, remains steadfast.

It also means that heavy rains and hailstorm, has destroyed all the grains and wheat which they had stored up and preserved for the whole year.

As soon as Persecution Relief were alerted about the plight of the Christians, much needed support was immediately provided to meet their basic needs, to help rebuild their lives and their homes. Pastor Philip, their local Pastor, has been enriching the group spiritually.

Speaking to Persecution Relief, Vijay and Puram Desa, sons of Puram Nande, expressed disappointment and sadness about the attack.

“Although what has happened is very sad, our resolve to follow Jesus Christ is unshaken”.

Church, RISE UP. Pray that God would do such a work that could only be explained as an “act of God.” May these first-generation believers experience the faithfulness of a prayer-answering God.

“And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it” - 1 Corinthians 12:26

If you are led by the Spirit of God to help these 3 persecuted families, please write to us at persecutionrelief@gmail.com or WhatsApp us at Tel.: +91 9993200020 for more information.
Kerala Police detained a man for distributing Christian literature in a Hospital in Manarkad, Kottayam, Kerala.

Evg. Boban Koshy was picked up by Police for passing out religious pamphlets, called “tracts”. He asserts that he has the right to express his beliefs according to his Constitutional rights and contends he did not disturb or influence people.

Hospitals usually feel like lonely hopeless places, where staff don’t have the time to spend with patients. In some instances, patients don’t get any visitors for the whole time they are admitted. Just seeing a smiling face or having a friendly ear to chat, makes all the difference to whether they have a pleasant or miserable stay. Often it is spiritual healing that the patient needs most. Fear, stress, and anxiety cause so many people to become sick.

Evg. Boban Koshy, member of Faith Family Church, hearing the call of God, has a very unusual, vital and much neglected area of ministry. He carries a burden to pray with sick people, offering comforting and healing words, handing out a bible tract to read, to facilitate their recovery.

**JUST AS JESUS CHRIST HAD SAID, “I WAS SICK, AND YOU VISITED ME” (MATT. 25:36), EVG. BOBAN FOLLOWS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, WHO SPENT MORE TIME IN MINISTERING TO THE SICK THAN HE DID IN TEACHING OR PREACHING.**

A pleasant man, with a friendly and smiling face, he is a common face at most of the Hospitals in and around Kottayam. With a positive attitude, he has been received by many patients, diffusing a spirit of joy, through faith in Jesus Christ.

Just as Jesus Christ had said, “I was sick, and you visited me” (Matt. 25:36), Evg. Boban follows in the footsteps of Jesus, who spent more time in ministering to the sick than He did in teaching or preaching.

Every day, he would set out at 3.00 pm and visit various hospitals until 9.00 pm, ministering and reaching out to the sick. Although not financially sound, nothing could persuade or discourage him to stop this ministry which he was passionate about. Often, he would peacefully offer a passer by a tract. If they
rejected or refused the tract, he allegedly let them go without following or harassing them.

One evening, Evg. Boban set out Kottayam Medical College, to distribute the tracts and to pray for the sick. Suddenly, he was confronted by Political Leaders belonging to a certain Political party, who began to shout and abuse him, accusing him of indulging in conversion activities. They challenged him that what he was doing was illegal as he had no permission or right to distribute tracts.

Evg. Boban acknowledged that he was not aware that he needed to get permission to distribute tracts as he was not forcing people to take it from him.

Nevertheless, the Political Leader was unrelenting and summoned the Police, alleging that Evg. was indulging in conversion charges, forcing people to read and convert to Christianity. Instigated by the political leaders, the Police forcibly took him to Gandhi Nagar Police Station in Kottayam for questioning. He was eventually released without any charges filed against him.

Evg. Boban is not disturbed or distressed by this recent incident, but rests in quiet confidence in the Lord.

Church, please pray for Evg. Boban and his family – especially for his son and daughter who are seeking for jobs.

“Thank you, Persecution Relief, for the support and assistance provided in speaking to the authorities. Thank you for the financial support too. Deeply grateful”.

Pastor Boban Koshy

Relief Provided
Adopt

a persecuted family

Prayerline24.com
• Daily 6 to 6.45 pm (New York time)
• Dial +1-712-432-8273, access code 218618#

Oklahoma Prayer Line
Sunday 9 to 11 pm – Oklahoma time
Dial +1-605-562-3140, access code 217 648

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For all enquires: persecutionrelief@gmail.com
Call +91 999 3200020

www.persecutionrelief.org
"You will never see your son again, we will burn him alive", warn religious fanatics, Telangana

Tensions have been simmering at a home in Vasavi Nagar, Kusgaiguda, Medchal District, Hyderabad, Telangana, where approximately 40 religious fanatics barged into the house of an elderly and underprivileged widow, living with her son, demanding that she vacate the house or see her son being burned alive in front of her house.

Sis. Sheeba Thomas, wife of late Pastor M. T. Thomas, has been living in a rented home, along with her son. Her daughter has been married off. After losing her husband, she established a house Church and started pastoring the congregation, in her rental accommodation. She had just moved to the current accommodation, a modest home, at Vasavi Nagar, a month ago.

On Sunday, 07th July 2019, during worship service, her neighbor Ram Babu along with some religious fanatics barged into the Sunday Worship Service. This "mob of young religious fanatics" surrounded the house putting it under siege, shouting hostile anti-Christian slogans and chanting "jai shri ram", demanding with impunity that "we don’t want Christians in this village".

Sis. Sheeba was physically assaulted and pushed, that she needed hospitalization. The fanatics also shouted abuses at the members who had gathered. A visiting itinerant, Pastor Jadaon, who was to share the message and give the Holy Communion, was also not spared.

"If you don’t vacate this house, you will never see your son again, we will burn him alive", warned the religious fanatics.

Sis. Sheeba and Pastor Jadaon
Shaken up by the incident, Sis. Sheeja lodged a Police complaint. However, the Police at Kushaiguda Police Station, categorically stated that she should not worship at her residence in the future and to secure permission from the Collector, before they gather for prayer in future.

The next day, Policemen visited the home at 11 pm, without a Policewoman, entered and checked all the rooms. Still later, more Policemen, armed with flashlights, kept trespassing into the private property throughout the night, flashing lights through the windows of the house, making her feel most vulnerable and defenseless.

Shankar Luke the Vice Chairman of Minority department spoke to the Commissioner and an appointment was fixed. After the meeting, the Commissioner has clearly stated that there should be no objection to the family gathering for prayer at the residence.

Learning of this development, Police have “pressurized” Sis. Sheeja to give “in writing” a statement drafted by the Police, stating that she will not conduct any worship service without permission at her residence.

“Police have not arrested or reprimanded anyone so far, for trespassing into my house, molesting and manhandling me and abusing our prayer Group”.

Is that justice? Where is the equality? Where is the religious freedom? Where is the law? Why is my Constitution right being denied?”

The scale of crackdown against the Christian minority community has been unprecedented in the past 2 years.

In 2018, Persecution Relief has recorded 447 incidents of hate-crimes. In the first six months of 2019, we have recorded 208 incidents of hate crimes against Christians in India.

Church, continue to pray for freedom to exercise our Constitutional rights that we may bring many out of darkness into His marvelous light!

Relief Provided

“I WANT TO THANK BRO. SHIBU WHO PRAYED WITH ME, ENCOURAGED ME AND FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED ME TO FIND AN ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATION. GOD BLESS HIS MINISTRY TO THE PERSECUTED CHURCH”. SIS. SHEEJA THOMAS
208 incidents of Christian Persecution recorded by Persecution Relief between January to June 2019.

www.persecutionrelief.org
The Half-Yearly Report on Hate-crimes against Christians, represents the culmination of intensive and concerted efforts by the Persecution Relief Family (both staff and volunteers), who have worked tirelessly, behind the scenes.

Persecution Relief have recorded 208 incidents of hate crimes against Christians from January to June 2019, close to what we recorded in 2018 (half-year). The Executive Summary captures the salient findings of our analysis.
Executive Summary

- In spite of the Christian community being a mere 2.3% of the Country’s population (2011 Census), it continues to be a major target of violence, living under the threat of harassment, physical violence and repressive laws that stifle “Freedom of religion and belief”, a blight to our fundamental human rights

- In 2019, at least three Christians, two from the state of Chhattisgarh and one from neighbouring Odisha, were martyred for their faith in Jesus Christ. Sources tell us that in all cases, local villagers are believed to have influenced Maoist guerrillas to believe that the Christians were Police informers, as they were opposed to them following Christianity - leading the Maoist rebels to kill them

- 2018 recorded the deaths of 3 martyrs; 2017 recorded 1; 2016 recorded 6 nos respectively. The police reportedly opened investigations, although cases remain ongoing even at the end of the reporting period

- Based on data collected by Persecution Relief, 208 incidents of hate crimes were recorded against Christians from January to June 2019, compared to 207 incidents in 2018; 288 incidents in 2017; and 179 incidents in 2016

- Persecution of Christians has spread across India. Opening the account in 2019 and topping the count is the state of Uttar Pradesh with 39 incidents in this first half. Uttar Pradesh continues to be most hostile towards Christians for the past 4 years, with Tamil Nadu (36), Maharashtra (16), Andhra Pradesh (13), Bihar (13), following close behind. Christian persecution has found a foothold, increasingly in all the 29 states and Union Territories.

- In addition, Christians have reported threats to their safety over the past year, as well as increased discrimination and unfair treatment directly related to their religious identity. For example, various research groups affiliated with Christian churches found an increase in hate speech and hate crimes against Christians across the country, especially in northeastern states, where the Christian community has grown in recent decades
Hate-crimes and incitement to violence directed at religious minority communities remained a prevalent threat in 2019. Fact that 208 incidents of hate-crime, were documented in the first half of 2019, speaks volumes. The actual extent of persecution is not known since State agencies and governments do not keep records unless local police register formal cases under the Indian Penal and Criminal Procedure codes.

Laws against Conversions in 8 States, not only rob Tribals and Dalits of their rights to Freedom of Faith, some of them have punitive measures against pastors connected with the people. Most dangerously, the anti-conversion laws seem to provide a ‘carte blanche’, or license to non-state actors such as members of the larger “Sangh Parivar” and some other ideologically-aligned groups of the RSS but also to the police and local governments, to target Christians and their institutions.

Many Human rights groups stated that the anti-Conversion laws, fostered hostility against minority communities

The Ministry of Home Affairs presented data in the lower house of parliament showing a 9 percent increase in incidents of religious violence from 2015 to 2017. In 2017, there were 822 incidents, resulting in 111 deaths and 2,384 injuries.

Long standing problems of police and judicial bias and inadequacies, continue to create a pervasive climate of impunity in which religious minorities feel increasingly insecure and have no recourse when religiously motivated crimes occur

Internationally, there has been growing criticism on the religious intolerance in India. In 2019, India was rated “10th most dangerous Country for Christians to live”, by UK-US-based monitoring group Open Doors. India was ranked 28th in 2014.
US Department of State, USA published 2018 Report on International Religious Freedom: India and they have made an elaborate study and have concluded religious intolerance was growing under its right-wing government. The Report released by Pompeo said “Hindu groups had used “violence, intimidation, and harassment” against Muslims and low-caste Dalits in 2018 to force a religion-based national identity. But Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government insisted that no foreign country had the right to criticize its record.

The “Report on International Religious Freedom 2018”, available on the website of the US State Department, alleged that the “authorities often failed to prosecute perpetrators of ‘cow vigilante’ attacks, which included killings, mob violence, and intimidation”, a charge that the government denied.

After the Election results, in spite of Prime Minister’s assurance of earning ‘Sabka Vishwas”, attacks against Christians and minorities have only drastically increased in 2019.

According to lynch.factchecker.in, who track Hate Crime: Cow-related Violence in India, 130 incidents reported, with 311 victims, 47 deaths - of which 180 major assaults, 84 minor injuries. (Definition of lynch mob noun [Cambridge]: A group of people who want to attack someone who they think has committed a serious crime).
PERSECUTION RELIEF
TYPES OF PERSECUTION
January to June 2019

CHURCH ATTACK
53 CASES

THREAT, HARASSMENT
& INTIMIDATION
78 CASES

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
28 CASES

ARRESTED
23 CASES

CHURCH BUILDING
BURNED
12 CASES

BOYCOTT &
DISCRIMINATION
8 CASES

MURDERED
3 CASES
## COUNT OF INCIDENTS BY STATE AND MONTH (January to June 2019)

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Uttar Pradesh continues to be most hostile State towards Christians for the past 4 years

Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have been “top Hostile States” against Christians

Christian Persecution has spread across the length and breadth of India and its 29 States

The 7 Union Territories have also reported attacks and incursions against Christians
The Bible often talks about Jesus coming to seek and save the lost. So it can be assumed that Jesus never shrank from close association with sinners. He spent time with them, shared meals with them and did not hesitate to be among them, in order to win them to Himself.

The woman presented to Christ by her accusers was without doubt guilty. In no way did He condone her serious offence. Rather, He pitied her weakness and made allowance for the temptation that compelled her to sin. Adultery definitely was in the front ranks of “the works of the flesh” and against the Creator’s just and holy law. But could anything have been more harsh than setting this sinful woman “in the midst” of the Temple, in full view of the gaping, leering multitudes? The Scribes and the Pharisees showed on their part a cold, hard cynicism, a graceless, pitiless, barbaric brutality of heart and conscience. This was in such a stark contrast to the “love that was eager to hide a multitude of sins.” (1Peter 4:8) While Jesus never excused sin, He was always tender and gracious in His treatment of the sinner and the destitute.

The religious leaders who unceremoniously dragged the woman caught in adultery to Christ themselves belonged to a class most eager to deal with harlots. They were the self-appointed custodians of public morality of the day and considered themselves righteous. To them, it was sinful to be touched by a woman like the one they brought to Jesus, but in reality, their zeal against the sins of others was just a cloak to cover their own vile mentality.

How else does one account for the fact that while they shamelessly dragged the unfortunate woman to Jesus, they conveniently let off the man, the chief offender? Caught in the very act of adultery, how did they assume that only one of the two involved was guilty? Why did they not bring the man to Jesus? Could it be that the man was himself a Pharisee, and that the policy of the day demanded he be let off unpunished?

Jesus could see through their hypocrisy instantly and made his displeasure at them very evident. While the woman’s accusers tried to trap Him by asking Jesus what should be done to the woman, seeing as adultery was a crime punishable by death, He just kept his head and gaze downwards and seemingly doodled on the ground with His finger. Was he acting like He did not care to hear them?
Was it an indicator to these heartless men that they were dealing with the very One who had written, with these same fingers, on the tablets of stone that He gave to Moses? Who were they to teach Him, the One who gave the Law, about the law?

The law and justice demanded that the adulterer and the adulteress be brought together and put to death (Leviticus 20:10). But Jesus also knew that in that assembly of people before Him, there was none save Himself who was sinless. He was going to make an example of these so-called religious leaders and show them up for the hypocrites they really were.

As a Jew and as the Messiah, Jesus was under solemn obligation to respect the Law of Moses. In His life on earth, Jesus fulfilled the law. When the Pharisees quoted the law about adulterers being stoned to death, they appealed to a standard that He regarded and honoured, even though the great prevalence of adultery made the punishment obsolete. Their question to Him, “What do You say?” (John 8:5b) did not imply that they respected His teaching about the law. All they wanted to do was to snare Jesus into making an answer contrary to the law. If He said, “Let her be stoned”, His tenderness and kindness in dealing with the sinful and degraded would have been shown as being false. If He said, “Let her go”, there would have been a revolt among those who, though favourable to Him, were staunch defenders of what Moses taught.

Jesus needed wisdom to deal with the crafty Pharisees and their cunning. But able to read the hearts of wicked men, He knew how to answer their questions, which he successfully did – by silence. He stooped and wrote in the dust round His feet “as though He had not heard them.” Why did He look down? Why did He write with His finger on the ground?

It may have been his consideration for the feelings of the guilty woman that made Jesus fix His gaze upon the ground and not on her. Another reason was probably His distaste for the situation that He was put in. He always looked upward to speak to His Father in heaven. When asked to pronounce judgement upon a guilty soul, His whole being shrank from such a task. Also, in writing on the ground, He was probably signifying His intentional disregard for the Pharisees and their accusations. Incensed by His disdain of them, they kept up the clamour for an answer to their questions.

When He did look up and speak, His judicial decision was not evident. What the Pharisees heard stunned them. “He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone.” As He continued writing on the ground, probably exposing their own sins in His writing, slowly but surely, His accusers slunk away.

When He looked up a second time, only the woman stood there. Something had constrained her to remain in the presence of the One who had become her Advocate and Deliverer. When asked where her accusers were and whether no one had condemned her, she simply replied, “No man, Lord.” Then came the words her heart longed to hear, “Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more.”
My Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ will deliver me from all persecutions & afflictions because He is alive.

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MEET VANITHA MUTHAYYA, PROJECT DIRECTOR OF ISRO CHANDRAYAAN 2 MISSION

Vanitha Muthayya, is a member of Richmond Town Methodist Church, Bangalore. She is the first and only woman director of ISRO till date and is the Head of the Chandrayaan 2 Mission. A great achievement. She has made the Christian community proud.

Indian Aeronautical Society, was named among the “Ones To Watch Out in 2019” by 2018 edition of Nature’s 10, an annual listicle of ten “people who mattered” in science, produced by the scientific journal Nature.

Vanitha has been researching on various domains of satellite communications and her researches are available on the official site of ISRO. The first in the line was CORDIC.

An Expert in Data Handling

Vanitha is an expert in data handling and according to Dr. M Annadurai,
the project director of Chandrayaan-1, Vanitha was hesitant in becoming the project director of such a high profile and crucial mission. “This role not only involves nearly 18 hours of work a day at its peak, which means many sacrifices but is also in the national limelight bringing heavy responsibility of its own,” Dr Annadurai told News18.

**Data Handling in spacecraft is used to:**

- Manage all forms of data on the spacecraft.
- Carry out commands sent from Earth.
- Prepare data for transmission to Earth.
- Manage the collection of solar power and charging of the batteries.
- Collect and process information about all subsystems and payloads.
- Keep and distribute the spacecraft time.
- Calculate the spacecraft’s position in orbit.
- Carry out commanded maneuvers.
-Autonomously monitor and respond to a wide range of onboard problems that might occur.

**Muthayya has also been conferred with the Best Woman scientist award in 2006 by the Indian Aeronautical Society.**

The Data Handling system is the heart of the orbiter and literally controls all the spacecraft functions. This makes it the most crucial part of any space mission. Dr. Annadurai says that Vanitha has excellent problem-solving skills which make her the best at Data Handling too. Her team management capabilities that he believed come in handy for this crucial project; which is why he made the extra effort to convince her to get on board Chandrayaan-2.

**CORDIC**

Vanitha has been researching on various domains of satellite communications and her researches are available on the official site of ISRO. The first in the line was CORDIC, which stands for coordinate rotation digital computer. It is an algorithm developed to compute trigonometric function through a series of rotation. Para-CORDIC is the latest method of implementation of CORDIC equations and has an advantage over other implementation algorithms in terms of speed and accuracy.

Source: shethepeople.tv/news
Moon landing: Buzz Aldrin took Holy Communion, read this Bible verse on lunar surface

By Caleb Parke | Fox News

Apollo 11 Moon landing: A brief timeline from 1961 to 1969

Apollo 11 landed on the Moon on July 20, 1969. Here is a brief timeline of events that lead to the historic moment, from President Kennedy’s call to action in 1961 to ‘The Eagle has landed’ in 1969.

Fifty years ago, when American astronaut Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, a devout Christian, made history landing on the moon, the first thing he did was give thanks to God.

Aldrin, seated next to Neil Armstrong, became the first person to celebrate a religious sacrament on a heavenly body outside Earth. The ordained Presbyterian elder wrote in a piece for Guideposts in 1970 he chose Holy Communion because his pastor at Webster
Presbyterian, Dean Woodruff, often spoke about how God reveals Himself through the everyday elements.

**APOLLO 11: BUZZ ALDRIN RECALLS THE MOON’S ‘MAGNIFICENT DESOLATION’**

“I wondered if it might be possible to take communion on the moon,” Aldrin recalled a year after the mission, “symbolizing the thought that God was revealing Himself there, too, as man reached out into the universe. For there are many of us in the NASA program who do trust that what we are doing is part of God’s eternal plan for man.”

And on July 20, 1969, after the Eagle lunar lander touched down on the surface of the moon, Aldrin pulled out the wafer that was in a plastic packet and the wine, along with a small silver cup provided by his church, which he kept in his “personal-preference kit,” before he spoke into the radio, according to the Religion News Service.

“Apollo, this is Eagle. This is the LM pilot,” Aldrin said, referring to the lunar module, shortly after the Eagle lunar lander touched down on the surface of the moon July 20, 1969.

Audio of Buzz Aldrin giving thanks shortly before taking Communion while on the moon. (Audio courtesy the Apollo 11 Lunar Surface Journal)

“I would like to take this opportunity to ask every person listening in, whoever and wherever they may be,” Aldrin said, “to pause for a moment and contemplate the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in his or her own way.”

Aldrin silently read from John 15:5, which he penned on a 3-by-5-inch notecard: “As Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in Him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me.”
1,700-YEAR-OLD RECENTLY DISCOVERED CHRISTIAN LETTER OFFERS CLUES INTO HOW FAITHFUL LIVED CENTURIES AGO

Aldrin then performed the ritual alone, which his dramatized in an episode of HBO’s “From the Earth to the Moon,” and played by Bryan Cranston. Armstrong watched but did not participate.

“In the radio blackout I opened the little plastic packages which contained bread and wine,” Aldrin said. “I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon, the wine curled slowly and gracefully up the side of the cup. It was interesting to think that the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the first food eaten there, were communion elements.”

He later wrote NASA requested he not read the Bible verse “because of the O’Hair lawsuit,” after Apollo 8 read 10 passages from Genesis about the creation of the world and an atheist sued. Although the lawsuit was eventually dropped, the space program was nervous about including any more faith declarations. But Aldrin managed to get another verse in before once again stepping foot on earth.

APOLLO 11 INSIDERS REMEMBER HISTORY’S MOST FAMOUS SPACE MISSION: ‘WE HAD A JOB TO DO AND WE DID IT’

At the end of the mission, when Aldrin was headed back to earth, he read aloud a second verse, from the Old Testament, he scrawled on the same notecard, Psalm 8: 3-4: “When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou has ordained; What is man that thou art mindful of him? And the Son of Man, that thou visitest Him?”

It’s something that, to this day, causes the 89-year-old living legend, whose historic communion in 1969 is still commemorated every year at Webster Presbyterian, to wonder about.

“It was a privilege to have been able to undertake the first manned mission to the lunar surface, an honor to have worked with so many good and dedicated people, and to have left our footprints there,” Aldrin told Florida Today earlier this week. «Even now, sometimes, I marvel that we went to the moon.»

Source: foxnews.com
‘IT’S TIME TO BE REAL: WHAT HAPPENS IN IRAQ IS ETHNIC CLEANSING’ – UK ANALYST

What Iraq’s Christians want from the West is to say the plain truth: that there is ethnic cleansing of Christians in the region and it is ongoing, Dr. Tim Stanley told a meeting at the UK’s parliament last Tuesday, 9 July. The historian and columnist, working for UK daily newspaper The Telegraph, just returned from a visit to Iraq’s Nineveh Plains.

“If we don’t say what is really happening in the region, which is ethnic cleansing of both Christians and Yazidis, we allow Islamic State and other perpetrators to get away with it,” Stanley told the audience at the event, ‘The Global Persecution of Christian Minorities’, organised by the Henry Jackson Society, a British foreign-policy think tank.

Since Islamic State was pushed out of the region, displaced Iraqis have slowly started to return to their communities but continue to live in fear and they continue to be vulnerable. Pockets of IS fighters are still active and the group has said it started the fires that in recent weeks torched hundreds of acres of land and crops, “owned by infidels”, in northern Iraq.

PAKISTAN COURT FREES PASTOR CHARGED WITH BLASPHEMY

Pakistani Islamists hold a poster displaying a portrait of Asia Bibi, a Christian woman accused of blasphemy, during a protest in February against a Supreme Court decision allowing her to travel abroad. (Photo by Arif Ali/AFP)
Jadoon Masih was allegedly badly mistreated while in custody before being granted bail.

Kamran Chaudhry, Lahore, Pakistan, July 12, 2019

A court in the Pakistani city of Lahore has acquitted a Pentecostal preacher two years after his arrest for alleged desecration of Islam’s holy book, the Quran, and insulting the Prophet Muhammad.

Judge Zafar Iqbal cleared Jadoon Masih of charges under the nation’s penal code. Masih, an ordained pastor of the Nasiri Pentecostal Church, was arrested by law enforcement officers on Feb. 2, 2017, two months after local Muslims reputedly found 150 pages of the Quran lying on the ground.

CHINESE CHRISTIANS WARNED NOT TO SPEAK ABOUT PERSECUTION

Crosses are being removed and churches demolished but anyone who discusses this publicly faces detention.

As the Chinese government continues to suppress religious freedom, Christianity is facing the forcible removal of crosses and demolition of churches across the vast nation.

However, threatened by the authorities and fearing retaliation, some Catholic Church members dare not disclose what is happening to the outside world, causing a blackout of all news on the subject.

The communist regime began to severely suppress the Church in Henan province last year and since then the persecution has spread to the neighboring region of Hebei.

Church sources in the latter say they have been threatened by authorities and dare not reveal the true facts to the outside world.

A worshiper wears a cross outside a Catholic church in Puyang in China’s Henan province. The communist regime began to severely suppress Catholics in Henan last year and the persecution has since spread to Hebei. (Photo by Greg Baker/AFP)

UCanews.com reporter, Hong Kong

China July 2019

The crosses of some churches in Hebei’s Handan Diocese were forcibly removed in May and since then all news about the demolition of churches has been blocked by authorities.
The party demands that it alone be called God, says US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has singled out China for its “extreme hostility” to religion and accused the ruling Communist Party of demanding “that it all alone be called God.”

Pompeo was speaking at the release of the U.S. Government’s 2018 Report on International Religious Freedom on June 21.

“In China, the government’s intense persecution of many faiths — Falun Gong practitioners, Christians, and Tibetan Buddhists among them — is the norm,” Pompeo said.

“The Chinese Communist Party has exhibited extreme hostility to all religious faiths since its founding. The party demands that it alone be called God.”

The report reiterated criticism of China’s detention of between 800,000 and 2 million Muslims, mostly Uyghurs, in the Xinjiang region of western China.
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