ARMED MEN ILLEGALLY POSSESS CHURCH BUILDING AND ITEMS WORTH 1000’S STOLEN

by VOTC Correspondent

Burglary, arson, robbery, vandalism—these are not topics that you associate with Church. Times have changed and it appears that churches with their own buildings and properties must think daily about these issues, and what they are doing to protect their people and their assets.

Pastor L M Samhotra has been ministering at ‘National Fellowship Church’ at Tarn Taran District in the Majha region of Punjab. Since 2008, worship services are being conducted in a modest building constructed on his personal land. 100-odd believers gather at this Church.

The pastor and members of this Church are still reeling from shock after vandals robbed and vandalized the church on Tuesday, 16th May around 10 am. The break-in was discovered by passers-by and the Pastor alerted. The Church’s padlock was broken, illegal entry made and several items from the Church burgled. Several thousands of rupees worth of Church furniture, music equipment, Dhurries, Electric Fans, utensils, cutlery & crockery, cash in the collection box were stolen. The vandals also broke the Church altar, tore up Christian literature and Bibles, damaged a crucifix, desecrating the sacredness of the Church.

The burglars, armed with swords, guns etc., moved all the Church items into a waiting truck. Strangely, a truck load of bricks and mortar were unloaded outside the Church premises. It is believed that they had intended to break and rebuild certain parts of the Church and possess the property illegally. The intruders gave the slip just as the police reached the spot, taking all the Church material and leaving behind the truck load of bricks.

The damages and loss of the Church is estimated to be over Rs. 1,00,000/-. At the time this news was going to the Press, no arrests have been made so far. No local politicians or Civil Leaders were willing to offer any support.

Sunday Worship service hijacked; attack by armed men in Uttar Pradesh

by VOTC Correspondent

Sunday, 14th May, started as just another regular morning. Worship service was to be conducted as always at Sheochem House, Bro. Asha Prakash’s residence, and ex-serviceman from the Navy, located at Prathap Vihar, in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, as was the practice for the last 6 years.

Bro. John Dawson, an elder of this Church, committed to his task of shepherding the faithful flock of Jesus Christ. Both Brothers, committed, selfless, dedicated and disciplined are subdued words to describe these remarkable men of God.

Bro. John Dawson commenced the Worship Service as usual and seated in the midst of the regular congregation were 2 unidentified new comers. No body sensed anything amiss and did not assume that they were trespassing.

Half-way through the service, these men used their mobile phones to text messages. Soon several unidentified religious fundamentalists joined them. Suddenly, without any warning, these men, armed with lathis, disrupted the worship service and began beating all the regular congregation were 2 unidentified new comers.

No matter who is leading the country, God. You will always remain on Your throne. Amen.

Asha

If you want a copy of ‘Voice of the Christians’ (VOTC) news paper, write to us at Votc@persecutionrelief.org

If you are reading this article and inspired by the Holy Spirit to support this church by replacing items that have been stolen/destroyed, please contact us at votc@persecutionrelief.org.

PERSECUTION RELIEF
AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT TO THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN INDIA

For Private Circulation, within the Church
The Rise in Violence against Minorities in India a Grave Concern, says Alliance for Justice and Accountability

by Siddhant Mohan, TwoCircles.net

In April this year, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) and Human Rights Watch (HRW) declared that religious freedom in India is at stake. Now, another US body, Alliance for Justice and Accountability (AJA), has released a comprehensive report on ‘minority rights violation in India’ on NDA government’s three-year anniversary and this report follows a similar theme to that of the USCIRF and the HRW.

The report, which can be read here, was launched in Washington DC and the panellists at the briefing included Jennifer Prestholdt (Deputy Director, The Advocates for Human Rights), veteran journalist Kannan Srinivasan, and Ajit Sahi (Advocacy Director, Indian-American Muslim Council).

The report mentions that human rights abuses against India’s social and religious minorities have been on the ascendance since the BJP government came to power. This grim reality is already being acknowledged within India as well as internationally.

AJA talks about the inability of Indian government in dealing with the anti-minority violence and said that ‘government action seem to actually protect the perpetrators’. It said, ‘The Government of India has not demonstrated a sense of urgency to adequately investigate and effectively prosecute perpetrators of human rights violations against members of minority groups,’ the report said.

The report marks the custodial torture and deaths separately. “Since the BJP formed the federal government in 2014, there has been an upick in the practice by the police and law enforcement of arbitrary and unlawful detention; torture, and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of terrorism suspects in police custody; extrajudicial killings; harassment of human rights defenders at the behest of the political executive; framing and arrests of innocents from the social and religious minorities; and fabrication as well as destruction of evidence.”

It further said, “The most egregious human rights violations perpetrated by the police include illegal detention of suspects and torture of detainees, arrests and convicts, as well as extrajudicial killings, called ‘encounter killings.’ “These ‘encounter killings’ are staged by the police who insist that those killed had taken the first shot. Not only have torture and the killings spiraled, the government has refused to act against their perpetrators.”

In the past too, Human rights experts have reported increased police harassment, arbitrary arrest, and detention of Muslims based on the pretext of their purported involvement in terrorist activities and the recent report by AJA acknowledges such cases in a comprehensive manner. It said, “Even though Indian law does not sanction torture it is most widely used. Beatings at police stations as also in prisons have caused hundreds of deaths of such detainees, accused or convicts. Even though confessions given to police officers are not admissible as evidence in the court, exclusions under the Indian laws, the practice of using torture to force confessions to the police goes on. Allegations that the police use torture to extort money have been made frequently.”

The report also mentions draconian laws which have caused huge human rights violations in the past. These laws include the AFSPA, the National Security Act (NSA), the Public Safety Act (PSA), the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) and the Chhattisgarh Special Public Security Act (CPSPA).

Report separately highlights the Hindutva organizations such as RSS, VHP, Hindu Yuva Vahini and Bajrang Dal and writes, “These organizations have long been involved in organized violence against the minorities often causing deaths of Muslims, and Bajrang Dal and RSS members have been accused for decades for such attacks, but few are ever prosecuted and even fewer convicted.”

The report does not only focuses over Muslims, but also talks comprehensively about Christians, Sikhs, Dalits and Tribals whose rights are being violated, and even crushed, since NDA came in power in 2014. Various episodes of anti-minority violence like Gau-raksha, Ghar-Wapasi, Love-Jihad have also been discussed in the report. The report does not stop at minority rights, but also talks about misuse of FCRA laws, restriction of freedom of expression, attacks on Human rights activists. The report also makes 29-points recommendation to Indian government which ranges from implementing DK Basu guidelines for arrests and detention to legislate punishment for sectarian violence by Individuals or groups.

Ajit Sahi, the new advocacy director at IAMC, said at the launch, “The release of this report is a plea to the international community for help in influencing the government of India to safeguard the rights of lower castes and religious minorities.

Follow the conviction of the Holy Spirit

by VOTC Correspondent

Pr. Prakash GK, had been ministering at Heavenly Light AG Church in Udhampur city, in the state of Jammu and Kashmir for the past 18 months, which has a floating population of 20 families.

On Thursday, 18th of May 2017 after early morning prayers, Pastor Prakash had heard about an incident where a 14-year old boy had died caused by a fall. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit, Pr. Prakash was prompted to visit the grieving family and pray for their child. While Pr. Prakash could have ignored the voice of the Holy Spirit, he decided to put his human thinking aside and honor the Lord.

He travelled around 2 kms to locate the boy and as he offered his condolences and asked if he could pray over the corpse of the boy. As the Pastor began to pray, believers related to the Sikh family who were present there, also joined him in prayer. The cold body began to turn warm and warmer, right in front of their eyes. Their faith was stirred and they began to pray more sincerely. As the news spread, a few Sikh spiritual leaders came and asked Pr. to stop praying. They alleged that his agenda was to convert people. They surrounded him and threatened that this would be his last day if he did not leave the place.

Pastor was forced to stop praying and while the agitated mob tried to incriminate him, the favor of God was upon him and he managed to escape from this provocative and aggressive people. Although it appears that the miracle and manifestation of God was stopped owing to the hardness of people’s hearts, God wrought a miracle in the hearts of the lad’s parents, who have decided to attend worship service here after. Hallelujah! Jesus Christ revived the dead and said: “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these will he do; because I go to the Father.” (John 14:12)

The condition is: he who believes in ME

Wherever God’s children, His servants, those who believe in Jesus Christ, and are violent to show God’s salvation through the power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, that is where people will discover that God surely showed a loving heart, God is compassionate and He wants to stretch out His hand. Let us be inspired by this true story and the effect of sincere, ardent prayer and obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Amen! People of God, let’s continue to uphold this Sikh family in our prayers.

MP: 10 booked for trying to convert 71 tribal children to Christianity

All the 71 children have been rescued and the arrested have been booked under Section 3/4-4 of the Madhya Pradesh Religious Freedom Act 1968.

Madhrya Pradesh Police today arrested 10 people for allegedly trying to convert tribal children of Jhabua and Alirapur region to Christianity. All the 71 children have been rescued and the arrested have been booked under Section 3/4-4 of the Madhya Pradesh Religious Freedom Act 1968.

Out of the 71 children, 60 minors—32 boys and 28 girls—were rescued by the Madhya Pradesh Police today arrested 10 people for allegedly trying to convert tribal children of Jhabua and Alirapur region to Christianity. (Pic: Hemender Sharma)

The report mentions that human rights abuses against India’s social and religious minorities have been on the ascendance since the BJP government came to power. This grim reality is already being acknowledged within India as well as internationally.

AJA talks about the inability of Indian government in dealing with the anti-minority violence and said that “government action seem to actually protect the perpetrators”. It said, “The Government of India has not demonstrated a sense of urgency to adequately investigate and effectively prosecute perpetrators of human rights violations against members of minority groups,” the report said.

The condition is: he who believes in ME
Police arrest church vandals in southern India

Angry at Pentecostal conversions, villagers took their frustration out on the Catholic church

Ritu Sharma, New Delhi, India
http://www.ucanews.com

Arrests have been made after a mob vandalized a newly-built Catholic church in the southern Indian state of Telangana State.

Police say they have arrested 22 people from a crowd of over 100 people who vandalized the Lady of Fatima Church in Kundapuripalle village. They broke statues of Jesus and the Blessed Mother, the crucifix and left furnaces in disarray.

“All the attackers belong to the village where the church was built,” Anantha Chari, investigating police officer of the case, told ucanees.com.

George Reddy, a local layman, donated land for the church. He applied for permission to construct a church but was never given the go ahead, Chari said.

“The villagers had objected two or three times to the construction,” he said.

The new church was blessed by Archbishop Thumma Bala of Hyderabad on May 13 but the church had not yet been used for service. Finishing touches to the building were ongoing.

Archbishop Bala told ucanees.com that the church was blessed to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Fatima “otherwise we would have waited a few more months.”

The prelate said that the attack could have happened because the Catholic Church is getting a bad name due to “aggressive preaching” by leaders of the Pentecostal churches in the area.

Pentecostal preachers are going around villages condemning other faiths, telling people they are not saved except in Christ and converting them. It is creating trouble for the Catholic Church, he said.

“Local anger is shown (by attacking churches) as the general public cannot differentiate between a Catholic or other denominations. They see the cross and consider the person a Christian,” Archbishop Bala said.

This is not the first time Christian places of worship have come under attack in the country.

In August 2016, Hindu extremists stopped the construction of a church building in Chhattisgarh state accusing Christians of illegal conversion activities.

In March 2015, the Believers Church in Haryana state was vandalized and its doors broken.

In April 2015, a Catholic church in Agra in Uttar Pradesh was vandalized and a dog leash tied around the neck of a Marian statue.

Pope: Only the Holy Spirit can lead us to testify that Jesus is the Lord

by http://www.asianews.it

The Holy Spirit is “a gift, the great gift of Jesus,” who does not lead us astray. “But where do we seek to hear the Spirit?” the pope asked.

In his sermon, the Holy Father gave his reflections on Jesus’ long speech to his disciples during the Last Supper, in particular with respect to his remarks about the Holy Spirit.

Only the Holy Spirit, Francis said, teaches us to say, “Jesus is the Lord”. Indeed, “Without the Holy Spirit, none of us is able to say it, to perceive it, to live it, Jesus, in other places in this long speech, said of Him [the Holy Spirit]: ‘He will lead you into all truth,’ He will accompany you towards the full truth. ‘He will bring to your remembrance of all that I have said to you; He will teach you all things’.

That is, the Holy Spirit is the travelling companion of every Christian, and also the travelling companion of the Church. And this is the gift that Jesus gives us.”

The Holy Spirit, the pope went on to say, is “a gift, the great gift of Jesus,” who does not lead us astray. But where does the Spirit dwell? the pope asked.

In the Acts of the Apostles, he noted, we see the figure of Lydia, a merchant in purple cloth, someone who knew how to do things” and the “The Lord opened her heart, so that she might advance in the Christian life, and that I too might bear witness that Jesus is the Lord”.

“The Lord opened her heart so that the Holy Spirit could enter, and she became a disciple. It is precisely within our hearts that we carry the Holy Spirit. The Church calls the Spirit ‘the sweet guest of the heart’,” the pope said.

Vatican City (AsiaNews) – Only the Holy Spirit can lead us to testify that Jesus is the Lord.

We can ask ourselves.

“Think about these two things today: Is my heart open? Do I make an effort to listen to the Holy Spirit, to what He tells me? And so we advance in the Christian life, and we too bear witness to Jesus Christ.”

continued from pg 1

Sunday Worship service hijacked...

never to hold worship service again or face ‘something more dangerous and severe coming their way and fied the place.

Persecution Relief Founder, Shibu Thomas spoke to Bro. Asha Prakash. Though he had to be hospitalized and treated for his gruesome injuries after the assault, his resilience and fortitude is extraordinary. “I am willing to suffer for Christ and until my last breath and will continue to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. I am unashamed of the Gospel.” In spite of this situation, the eldership team encouraged the congregation not to withdraw but keep moving forward, no matter what be the circumstance.

The Elders of the Church also mentioned that they had forgiven the persecutors and are praying daily for their change of heart. May God continue to use this Church as a lighthouse in the city of Ghaziabad.

Although an FIR has been lodged, no arrests have been made so far.

Prayer

Prayer is having conversation with God. Prayer is a time to listen to what God is telling us. Prayer is a time to thank God for His goodness. Prayer is a time to worship God for who He is. Prayer is a time to pour out our heart to God. Prayer is a time to look to God for guidance. Prayer is a time to ask God to forgive our sins. Prayer is a time to talk to God our needs. Prayer is talking to God about the needs of others. Prayer is a time to seek God and His favor. Prayer is a time to make commitments to Him. Prayer is a time to seek God’s will for our life. Prayer is the way to draw closer to God. Prayer is the source of our strength. Prayer is a time to cry out to God in our distress. Prayer is warfare against the enemy of our soul. Prayer is what softens the hardest of hearts. Prayer is what breaks bondages. Prayer is what brings healing. Prayer is what gives joy and peace. Prayer is what makes impossible things possible. Prayer is receiving divine protection against the devil. Prayer is obtaining instructions and guidance from God. Prayer gives wisdom and divine revelations. Prayer gives boldness. Prayer gives hope even in the most hopeless situations. Prayer draws people to God and saves them. Prayer increases faith in God. Prayer means never giving up on God. Prayer shows our dependence on God and not on our wisdom. Prayer brings victory. Prayer always pleases God.

Col 4:2 "Continue earnestly in prayer; as a watchman before the walls..."

1 Thes 5:17 "Pray without ceasing..."
Tribal bishops seek Indian president’s intervention

They fear India’s indigenous peoples could end up landless like those in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand

Bijay Kumar Minj, New Delhi, India

India’s tribal Catholic bishops have sought the intervention of President Pranab Mukherjee to ensure the rights of millions of tribal people. The memorandum signed by tribal bishops from six states said they were “saddened” by the policies of state governments that have trampled over tribal people’s rights. They want the president “to protect the land, forest and socio-cultural rights of tribal people,” the May 10 memorandum said.

“Land is the only means of livelihood and sustenance” for most tribal people, as 90 percent of them are dependent on agriculture or allied activities in their ancestral land, the bishops said.

The present federal and most state governments, however, “have taken various actions to alienate tribal people from their land on a massive scale to facilitate industrialization,” the bishops said.

In its most recent example, Jharkhand government amended two laws that guaranteed the protection of tribal land used for agriculture. The government declared their land as non-agricultural and, since non-agricultural land does not come under the purview of protective legislation, tribal people can be dispossessed.

Tribal bishops at Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India center in New Delhi for a two-day consultation on land issues on May 9. They sent a memorandum to the president the next day. (ucanews.com photo)

“Once alienated from their land, these tribal races of India will be lost forever, similar to what happened in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in past centuries,” the bishops said.

Large-scale land acquisition is going on in the tribal districts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha states and “the entire tribal population of these districts will also be lost forever,” they said.

The federal government enacted the Forest Rights (Scheduled Tribes & Customary Forest dwellers) Act in 2006 to restore the rights of tribal people and promised that their land would be community-owned. However, the provisions have not yet been implemented.

Jharkhand state was created in 2000 purportedly to safeguard tribal interests.

Even so, the government has allowed migrants to swarm the state threatening “the historic disregard to the rights and traditions of the mass majority of IVF not only destroys the heart they hang. How do we love and growth. They are not supposed to be incinerated and hung round a their wrists, they could hold their hands across the street. We must value all human life as a precious gift from God. We also must be willing to help those who have frozen their embryos — whether unwittingly in ignoring or with a stinging conscience — to know that their frozen children are, or were, just that: their children. And we stand ready to offer them the hope of the gospel.

Savior of the Weak and Wicked

Whatever sons and daughters have been lost in IVF, they are not lost to God. Just as hundreds of thousands of human embryos are created and utterly vulnerable to the whims of adult humans, there is One who became vulnerable for us, whose beginnings are, or were, just that: their children. And we stand ready to offer them the hope of the gospel.

Abigail Dodds /Desiring God Ministries

Some of the strangest news I’ve ever seen came across my screen this week. A company in Australia is turning frozen embryos into jewelry for their parents to wear.

Previously Baby Bee Hummingbirds had been making jewelry out of mothers’ breastmilk and placentas. Now, the company has turned its attention to frozen human embryos — embryos that couples choose not to implant in the mother’s uterus and no longer want to store or “donate.” To put it plainly, they’re making trinkets out of babies that people no longer want or don’t want to help.

Founder Amy McClade says, “I don’t believe there is any other business in the world that creates jewelry from human embryonic remains. I believe that we are pioneering the way in this sacred art, and opening the possibilities to families around the world. … What a better way to celebrate your most treasured gift, your child, than through jewelry?”

Babies, Not Trinkets

Dr. Paul and Susan Lim have argued compellingly that we don’t “donate humans” we donate objects: furniture, money, cars. Twisting language like this obscures what’s really going on in the industry of In Vitro Fertilization (IVF). As the Lims’ own story shows, embryos are human. The proof is in their youngest daughter, adopted as an embryo, with her own genetic makeup, her own hands, feet, brain, and personality. She merited a full human life, and existed as a frozen embryo before they knew her. One Australian mother, who carries the ashes of her embryos in a heart pendant, candidly says, “My embryos were my babies — frozen in time.” She remarks, “I needed them with me.”

The author of the article also overtly affirms that the embryos are babies whose parents should honor. Try as they may, advocates of this new trend can’t help but say what they know deep down to be true: these are babies. “Ms. Stafford chose a heart pendant through Baby Bee Hummingbirds, so she could carry her babies close to her heart, where they should be.”

And yet, that’s not where they should be. God designed embryos to live inside a mother’s womb for protection and growth. They are not supposed to be incinerated and hung round a mother’s neck, no matter how close to the heart they hang. How do we love embryos? By allowing them to keep living and growing.

Baby Bee Hummingbird’s Facebook page responds to criticism by saying, “Please only read with love and respect. The families we craft for are truly aware of the various worldwide options for embryos in storage. They are informed, educated, and loving people who have made an educated decision.”

This is part of what makes embryo jewelry so breathtakingly surreal. Educated and wealthy married couples are choosing to turn their children into wearable ornaments. In the process, they attempt to make death into something precious.

A Time to Question

IVF has become the default option physicians suggest for couples struggling with infertility, yet it has gone largely unquestioned in the broader Christian world. Now is the time to ask some serious questions, if we haven’t already. The ethical issues are many, including the historic disregard for life in creating the procedure and the ongoing disregard for life as the techniques continue to develop. The mass majority of IVF not only destroys human life; it conceives life it knows will be destroyed. Add to this the gigantic financial incentive doctors have to perform IVF, and Christians ought to openly, articulately, and lovingly challenge the mainstream of this approach to conceiving children.

As Christians, we also need to equip ourselves to understand and guide parents who have frozen embryos in limbo. We must be able to point them to a better way of celebrating their children than turning them into trinkets. Let’s remind parents that, rather than wearing babies around their necks, they could clasp their arms around their children as they tuck them in and hug them tight. Instead of petrifying their children in stones around their wrists, they could hold their hands across the street.

We must value all human life as a precious gift from God. We also must be willing to help those who have frozen their embryos — whether unwittingly in ignoring or with a stinging conscience — to know that their frozen children are, or were, just that: their children. And we stand ready to offer them the hope of the gospel.

Let’s call everyone, all the guilty, the people that we once were, to turn from their wicked ways and trust Jesus. Let’s speak into the confusion of our culture with the truth that a child’s death is never sentimental and never precious. And let’s help rescue children who are perishing, rather than turning them into an accessory for their parents to wear.

The Horror of Human Embryo Jewelry

The memorandum also spoke about the harassment Christians face especially in Jharkhand. Recently, state police launched a drive to collect information on Christian churches and sent out a questionnaire asking church leaders about their political leanings, relationship to extremest groups, bank accounts and incomes.

The tone of the questionnaire was “that all Christian churches and their institutions are engaged in anti-national and criminal activities. This created a sense of fear and insecurity among Christians,” the bishops said.

India has some 104 million tribal people, forming 9 percent of the country’s 1.2 billion population, according to 2011 census. An estimated 30 percent of India’s 27 million Christians are also tribal people, particularly in eastern and central parts.

Father Stanislaus Tirkey, secretary of the India Catholic bishops’ office for tribal people told ucanews.com that indigenous people are facing the same situation that Christians are facing and “we plan to address it collectively.”

Supreme Court lawyer M.P. Raju, who informs the bishops on legal issues, said that “We have failed as leaders to awaken the tribal people and there is a need to take these issues seriously.”

“Let us forget what happened and start anew or else it will be too late,” Raju told the bishops.
Statistics Show for Every Christian Convert in UK, 26 Believers Abandon Their Faith

Veronica Neffinger / Editor ChristianHeadlines.com

Statistics show for every Christian convert in UK, 28 believers abandon their faith.

While Christianity is on the rise in countries such as China where Christians face intense persecution, research shows it is on decline in other countries, such as the UK.

According to a study conducted by The Benedict XVI Center for Religion and Society, undertaken by St. Mary’s University in Twickenham, for every one person who converts to Christianity in the UK, 28 believers abandon their faith and become an atheist or agnostic.

For every one person brought up with No religion who has become a Christian, twenty-six people brought up as Christians now identify as Nones,” the study found.

“Christians face intense persecution, such as the UK,” Qureshi said. “They should consider it a privilege to be living in a place where they can freely practice their faith and to support those who face persecution.”

Qureshi explained that if the radiation would have worked, he would have qualified for surgery. However, since it “didn’t do a good enough job,” he said he doesn’t know what will happen next.

The apologist admitted the latest scan result was “the worst news” he has received since his cancer diagnosis because “the cancer is worse than it was when they first discovered it.”

“The radiation apparently didn’t work too well,” Qureshi said in the Vlog. “The primary tumor has shrunk some, so that’s good, but the tumor is still there. There’s still cancer in the stomach.”

“But what’s worse, the lymph nodes that we were hoping would recede haven’t receded so I’m not a candidate for surgery. And on top of that, the cancer has spread to more lymph nodes now throughout my chest,” he said.

There are no signs that the cancer has spread to other organs, he added.

The apologist said he is yet uncertain as to what his next step will be. He explained that if the radiation would have been successful, he would have qualified for surgery. However, since it “didn’t do a good enough job,” he said he doesn’t know what will happen next.

In November, Qureshi reported a “remarkable” results from his scans, which showed “partial healing.” At the time, he said the lymph nodes near the stomach no longer had cancer, and the only lymph node that was of concern was far from the stomach.

Several rounds of chemo later, he reported a “mixed scan” in that they did not know exactly what it showed. And now they discovered the cancer has spread to other lymph nodes.

He said hearing the news made him remember Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, whose story was written in the gospel of John in the New Testament. Lazarus’ sisters were indignant with Jesus for not coming to heal their brother sooner, but what “did was a lot better than what they were hoping for: he raised Lazarus from the dead.”

“It was an even greater miracle than otherwise expected,” Qureshi said. “That’s kind of where we are now. My hope is still in the Lord.”

If this be for God’s glory, it would be definitely more for His glory now because we’re kind of past the point of medical treatment, or at least past the first line of medical treatment.”

“I can’t lose hope, I can’t lose hope,” the New York Times bestselling author said, adding, “there’s a lot on the line, especially my daughter.”

Qureshi said they will keep praying and doing what they can. One of the things he is considering is trying out alternative treatments for cancer.

“I hear about places in southern France and in Switzerland, some in Mexico. So who knows, maybe I’ll check some of these things out,” he said. “But my hope is still in the Lord. My hope is still in the Lord.”

He thanked everyone who have been praying for him and asked them to continue lifting him up in prayer.

He also ended his Vlog in prayer, acknowledging the sovereignty of God over his life and declaring that God is “a miracle working God.”

“I know that Your will is for life, and for life to the full,” he prayed.

Teacher Fired for Giving Bible to Student is Given Job Back

Veronica Neffinger / Editor ChristianHeadlines.com

A school teacher who was fired for giving a Bible to a student has been given back his job, according to The Christian Institute.

Substitute teacher Walt Tutka, who taught at a Phillipsburg district school in New Jersey, was fired after the school board voted him out.

Tutka reportedly quoted Matthew 20:16 which says, “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.” A student then repeatedly asked Tutka where the phrase came from, so Tutka gave the student a Bible of his own. First Liberty Institute took up Tutka’s case and filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), alleging that Tutka had faced religious discrimination.

The whole process took over three years, but Tutka will finally be able to return to teaching after a final decision in the case was reached this week. A settlement has been reached with Phillipsburg School District, offering Tutka his job back.

“We always knew Walt complied with all school district policies and federal laws, the EEOC agreed, and now Walt is returning to his service to the community in Phillipsburg,” stated First Liberty Institute Deputy Chief Counsel Hiram Sasser.

“We are really pleased we accomplished the mission we set out to achieve,” he added.

British multiculturalists are feeding Islamic fundamentalism. Above all, Londonistan, with its new 423 mosques, is built on the sad ruins of English Christianity,” said a report from Gatestone.

“In 1983, Christians of various denominations made up 67 percent of the UK’s population. By 2015, that number had dropped to 43 percent.

“British multiculturalists are feeding Islamic fundamentalism.”

Veronica Neffinger / Editor ChristianHeadlines.com

Schools have repeatedly asked Tutka where his job back. In New Jersey, was fired after the school board voted him out.
Hindu Leader Bedridden for Years Due to ‘Black Magic’ Embraces Christianity After Miraculous Healing

Gospel Herald Ministries

By LEAH MARIEANN KLETT

The leader of a prominent Hindu temple converted to Christianity after a miraculous healing Open Doors USA

The prominent leader of a Hindu temple who practiced “black magic” and was left bedridden for two years due to a serious illness embraced Christianity after Jesus miraculously healed him.

The director of an indigenous ministry in southern Indonesia shared with Christian Aid Mission how the Hindu leader believed his mysterious illness stemmed from his years of practicing black magic and asked for prayer.

However, even though the director prayed with the Hindu leader for two months that God would protect him from the affliction, nothing changed.

One day, the temple leader’s wife called the ministry director and asked him to visit, saying the local shaman - a spiritual guide and practitioner - had stopped visiting him. In fact, the shaman had been coming but was mysteriously unable to find him, the director said.

“I came to visit again, and I just asked him to invite Jesus the Doctor, saying He is God who can make you healed,” he said. “I said, ‘I’ll pray for you, but you must believe that He is God and will make you well.’” He prayed for him and went home.

The director returned the next day and found the temple leader well enough to be mixing cement to build a wall.

“When I came, he said, ‘Hello Mr. Church,’ because he doesn’t know my name,” he said. “He said, ‘Please pray for me and let me know more about Jesus,’ and afterward I gave him an MP3 player with the gospel. The next week I came and baptized him.”

The former Hindu remains an influential community leader, he added, saying villagers have been coming to him and asking why he came to Jesus, thus expanding the gospel advance.

Hindus make up only 1.7 percent of the population of Indonesia, where 87.2 percent of the people are Muslim and less than 10 percent are Christian. Persecution watchdog Open Doors notes that Hindus in Indonesia have strict rules that punish those who leave the religion for another. Believers from a Hindu background have lost their families, their inheritance, and their place in the village for following Jesus Christ.

Nevertheless, through evangelism, Bible and literature distribution, an orphanage and microenterprise projects, as well as a home for widows, the indigenous ministry directs its efforts to peoples who have not heard the gospel.

The ministry director shared how, recently, a 15-year-old girl in a predominantly Hindu village where the group has a home for widows wondered why the director went there to offer them Bible studies. The widows are the only Christians in the area, and one of them had nearly died from practicing black magic before she came to Christ, he said.

“The girl wanted to understand why Jesus Christ was more powerful than black magic,” he said. “One day as I was on my way to the widows’ home, she followed me and asked if she could listen to what I was teaching the widows. She began to come regularly.”

Afterward, the Bible study group quickly grew and many of them believed and professed Jesus Christ.

Open Doors USA notes that radical Islamic groups continue to pose serious challenges in Indonesia, especially when it comes to international movements. Because of this, Indonesia is ranked 46th on Open Doors’ World Watch List of 50 countries where believers face the most persecution.

Christians Tapping Into New-Age Lies as Great Falling-Away Continues

JENNIFER LECLAIRE- Charisma News

Jennifer LeClaire is now sharing her reflections and revelations through Walking in the Spirit. Listen at charismapodcastnetwork.com.

Is Sister Christian sitting next to you in Sunday service a closet New Ager? Is your pastor tapping into new spirituality? Are you believing a New Thought lie?


Some have indeed departed from the faith because they have engaged with other cultures and have become the proverbial blind leading the blind.

And would you believe it? Some modern-day, Spirit-filled churches even prescribe the right to tell you whom you can or can’t marry (along with many other details of your personal life). I’ve known folks who have nervously gone to ask the pastor for permission to marry another congregant, hoping that their request wasn’t denied and their love wasn’t dashed. And this wasn’t during the Shepherding Movement; this was recent.

Lively Indolatrous Lifestyles

Paul wrote, “Know this: In the last days perilous times will come. Men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unholy, without natural affection, cruel, shrewd, envious, slanderers,剥离, haughty, revilers, inventors of new gods, and disbelievers, of whom the judgment began to descend on the ungodly.”

A generation on Sunday mornings. Many pastors ignore the homeless, the dirty things on sermon props and video announcements that rival MTV so they can entertain an idolatrous generation on Sunday mornings.

Some pastors offer a 20-minute sermonette and afterwards neglect the opportunity to lay hands on the sick, get people filled with the Holy Spirit or otherwise open up the altar for believers seeking a touch from God. These are ways to make room for God’s power. Pleasure has taken its place.

Scratching Itchy Ears

Paul also warned, “For the time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine, but they will gather to themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, having itching ears” (2 Tim. 4:3).

We see some of this among congregations even now. Beyond universalism, there’s the prospect of a gospel that only demonstrates one side of the cross. There’s the grace message that pervades the gospel. These are fables. Billy Graham once filled stadiums with his bold preaching on subjects like hell and holiness. Today we see seeker-friendly preachers fill stadiums to hear a motivational message followed by a call to give. Many modern believers may cringe if they see their friends quoting the ancient sermon on hell. Again, some deny the existence of hell.

So is the Great Falling-Away already underway? I believe so. And I pray that the Lord would count me faithful, that I would not be deceived in these last days and that I might be a pure vessel the Lord can use to sound the alarm. What about you?
Persecution Relief will observe 22nd July as the “Indian Christian Martyrdom Day” which will be an annual event, to honour ‘Bharat ki Beti’ who was raped and murdered and to salute the martyrdom of Christian soldiers, who lost their lives defending their faith in Jesus Christ.
PRAY FOR ALL LEADERS IN CHURCHES, THE COURT ROOMS, IN OUR NATION, STATES & DISTRICTS – THAT ALL LEADERS WOULD GOVERN IN RIGHTEOUS AND EQUITY.

2017 JUNE

**DAY 1**
Lord, we pray for our Church Leaders from losing heart when ministry gets tough.

**DAY 2**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders will be wholehearted, give attention to prayer and ministry of the Word.

**DAY 7**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders may be humble, pure and with a good reputation that show that they remember You, Creator God.

**DAY 13**
Lord, we pray that You would intervene and show mercy on those that are being harmed and abused by unjust policies of this Nation.

**DAY 19**
Lord, we pray that you will have mercy on the Nation’s leaders who have deliberately rejected the path of truth and justice and will come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

**DAY 25**
Lord, we pray that our Leaders will not look at this world from a human perspective, for we would not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers, against the spiritual rulers of this dark world.

**DAY 3**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders will be wholehearted, give attention to prayer and ministry of the Word.

**DAY 8**
Lord, we pray that the gospel with power, in the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.

**DAY 14**
Lord, we pray that You would cause our Nation’s Leaders to look to You so that so that our nation may be governed according to Your plans and purposes.

**DAY 20**
Lord, we pray that Leaders in the States and Districts, who are seeking to implement a humanistic and anti-god agenda will be stopped in Jesus name.

**DAY 26**
Lord, we pray that You will vindicate and remove corrupt Judges and Lawyers from our Courtsrooms that have unfounded aggression against Your people.

**DAY 4**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders will walk worthy of respect with sincere hearts of servitude.

**DAY 9**
Lord, we pray that You would set up godly men and women in positions of leadership and power in our Court room, exercising godly authority.

**DAY 15**
Lord, we pray that all those that You have set up in places of authority to rule and govern our nation, both political and religious, will so with wisdom and integrity.

**DAY 21**
Lord, we pray that all plans to pursue an agenda counter to the truth of Your Word, in India, will be cancelled in the name of Jesus Christ.

**DAY 27**
Lord, we pray that You would give our leaders hearts of flesh and sensitive consciences.

**DAY 5**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders will be filled with Your Spirit and operate in wisdom as they carry out their responsibilities.

**DAY 10**
Lord, we pray that our Judges and Lawyers will judge without discrimination, including the poor and marginalized.

**DAY 16**
Lord, we pray that our Leaders may come to faith in the Lord Jesus, so that we may live peacefully in this Nation into which You have placed us.

**DAY 22**
Lord, we pray that You will expose every scheme that is designed to undermine godly principles in our Nation.

**DAY 28**
Lord, we pray that You will right all the wrongs that is being engineered by our Leaders to exploit the land’s resources.

**DAY 6**
Lord, we pray that our Church Leaders will be clothed in righteousness, with hearts that delight greatly in You.

**DAY 12**
Lord, we pray that You will turn the hearts of Judges and Lawyers who have set aside godly principles.

**DAY 18**
Lord, we pray that the Nation’s Leaders would lay aside all selfish ambition and that Your plans and purposes be fulfilled for the well-being of all citizens.

**DAY 24**
Lord, we pray that You will depose and cancel every unjust government measures and rogue governors – whose decisions lead to misery of Your people.

**DAY 30**
Lord, we pray that You will keep Your people from trying to take matters into their own hands for vengeance in Yours and You will repay.

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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Publisher.

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