

**Miracles that follow the plow :: Persecution in Orissa, India****Persecution in Orissa, India - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/8/28 19:14**

Dear Saints,

Please be in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Orissa, India. There has been a great outbreak of militant persecution against the saints in this Indian province. Gospel For Asia (GFA - <http://www.gfa.org/>) reports that 20 churches affiliated with their ministry were destroyed, and the homes of hundreds of Christian families have been burned to the ground. It is estimated at least a dozen Christians GFA affiliated churches have been murdered. Many have fled for their lives into the woods.

According to K.P. Yohannan, Orissa has seen more people place their faith in Christ in this province than any other, so, the violent opposition to the gospel message and Christians does not surprise him.

More can be read at: http://www.gfa.org/orissa-update?cm_mmc=GFA-_-Email-_-377991-_-080828-Persecution

Re: Persecution in Orissa, India - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/8/28 19:16

It should be noted, this report is simply from Gospel for Asia. What other non-GFA churches are suffering does not appear to be reported here. I can only imagine the full picture of the horrors going on there.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/8/28 19:17

The following link gives a bigger and grimmer picture of what is going on:

<http://www.christianpersecution.info/news/new-wave-of-violence-against-christians-in-orissa-state-15234/>

Re: - posted by JoanM, on: 2008/8/28 22:45

praying and forwarded to praying group

(good site/link to keep watch on)

Re:, on: 2008/8/29 11:53

Quote:

KingJimmy wrote:

It should be noted, this report is simply from Gospel for Asia. What other non-GFA churches are suffering does not appear to be reported here. I can only imagine the full picture of the horrors going on there.

Yes, they are attacking ALL who name the name of Christ, not just Gospel for Asia. I posted this story to our prayer chain this morning and a woman wrote back:

Quote:

-----Our church is partners with a ministry in India -- Gospel Friends International and their leader Ghuna Kumar. We've made several trips to India and Pastor Ghuna is actually in the states right now and this past Sunday morning, he received word of the newest attacks in Orissa, where he has an orphanage and house church plants -- and the 20 or so boys of that orphanage and their leaders were on the run from these extremist Hindu people. Since then we've heard that there were two men close to Pastor Ghuna were killed. This is something so outside what we can imagine. We can't imagine having to leave our homes for something like a hurricane, much less because the people of our neighborhood hearing that we are believers in Christ and they come to kill us!

Re:, on: 2008/8/29 12:30

Sorry to hear about this. I will pray today while at work. I tried the link but for some reason it won't come up.

Re: - posted by theopenlife, on: 2008/8/29 19:00

My pastor received the following information from one of his good friends who is a missionary in India at present:

From Rev. Steve Poelman, a URCNA missionary in India and a fellow classmate of mine in the ThM program at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.

PERSECUTION IN INDIA TODAY,

FROM AN E-MAIL Rev. Poelman sent Friday August 29

There are 32 incidents listed that happened in the last week, here are 24. PRAY FOR THEM!

AFTERMATH OF SWAMI'S KILLING : THE CHRISTIAN VICTIMS LIST

- 1) NUN BURNT ALIVE: A nun was burnt to death on 25th, Monday, after an orphanage was torched in at Phutpali in Bargarh district in Orissa
- 2) RASANANDA PRADHAN TORCHED ALIVE: Another person, Rasananda Pradhan, was burnt to death when his house was set ablaze at Rupa village in Kandhamal district.
- 4) Churches burnt across the state, police sources said, adding 40 houses were set ablaze in Phulbani town.
- 6) PULBANI CHURCH RANSACKED: The Church at Phulbani, and several other churches at Phiringia were attacked and ransacked. Pastor D. Tatson's house was vandalized and his property burnt.
- 7) KAKRIGUMA CHURCHES VANDALISED: Churches in Kakriguma have been targeted by the mob that reportedly damaged the Assembly Of God Church and the Philadelphia Church.
- 8) WORLD VISION STAFF FLED FOR SAFETY: World Vision India office ransacked and the Staff has also fled to jungle for protection.
- 9) CHRISTIANS TAKE SHELTER IN FOREST FOR PROTECTION: A police camp at Barakhama was also attacked by the Hindu fundamentalists. With several houses being burnt down and people being made homeless, many Christians, particularly from Nua Sahi, Munda Sahi and Suna Tonga have fled into forests for their lives.
- 10) NUN RAPED: A young Catholic Nun of the Cuttack Bhubaneswar diocese working Jan Vikas Kendra, the Social Service Centre at Nuagaon in Kandhamal was reportedly gang raped on 24th August 2008 by groups of Hindutva extremists before the building itself was destroyed.
- 11) SENIOR PRIEST AND NUN INJURED: Fr Thomas, director of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Kanjimendi, less than a kilometer away from the Social Service Centre, and another Nun were injured when the centre was attacked. They were taken to the police station in a disheveled state as the armed mob bayed for their blood. The Pastoral centre was then set afire.
- 12) BALLIGUDA CHURCH BUILDINGS DESTROYED AGAIN: On 24th August 2008 evening lynch mobs at the block headquarters of Balliguda, in the very heart of Kandhamal district, which had seen much violence between 24th and 26th December 2007, attacked and destroyed a Presbytery, convent and hostel.
- 14) PHULBANI CHURCH DAMAGED: On 25th August 2008 morning followers of the late Lakshmanananda Saraswati damaged the Catholic Church in Phulbani, the district headquarter town.
- 15) MOTHER TERESA BROTHERS ASHRAM ATTACKED: Mobs attacked the Mother Teresa Brothers' residence and hospital in Srasanada, destroyed once before and rebuilt two months ago, and beat up the patients.
- 17) DUBURI PARISH: Another group of fundamentalists entered presbytery in Duburi parish, managed by the SVDs and destroyed and damaged property. Two priests of the parish are missing.
- 19) A Baptist Church in Akamra Jila in Bhubaneswar is also damaged.
- 20) Christian institutions like St Arnold's School (Kalinga Bihar) and NISWASS report some damage.
- 21) BOUDH DISTRICT : Fundamentalists enter the Catholic parish church and destroy property. People are fleeing to safer places. But nothing seems safe.
- 22) MUNIGUDA: Muniguda Catholic Fathers and Nuns' residence have been damaged.
- 23) SAMBALPUR: HM Sister's residence (Ainthapalli) has suffered damage.
- 26) SMALL CHURCHES: Attempted violence on small churches in various districts, including Padampur, Sambalpur ne

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ar GM College, Talsera, Dangsoroda, Narayanipatara, Muniguda, Tummiibandh, Tangrapada, Phulbani, Balliguda, Kalin
gia, Chakapad, Srasanranda.

27) VILLAGE CHRISTIAN HOUSES ATTACKED: Houses attacked on forest hamlets of Balliguda, Kanjamandi Nuagua
m (K.Nuaguam), Tiangia (G.Udayagiri), Padangiri, Tikabali.

28)KALAHANDI DISTRICT: Houses burnt even though the district is more than 300 kilometers from the place where Sw
ami Lakshmanananda was killed.

29) PASTORS' HOUSE BURNT: Pastor Sikandar Singh of the Pentecostal Mission beaten up and his house burnt in Bh
awanipatna.

30) KHARIHAR:3 Christian shops were looted and burnt. Pastor Alok Das and Pastor I M Senapati beaten up. 32) NAKTI
KANI: Mob surrounds village to attack Christians.

The Home Minister assured the delegation all necessary steps have been taken to maintain peace and harmony and pro
tect the innocent. He also expressed his helplessness by stating that police protection cannot be given in all villages.

In Christ, Pallab