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News and Current Events:: Vietnam: Authorities raid, threaten house churches

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Local authorities in Vietnam have balked at registering house churches, contributing to a recent uptick in sometimes viol ent harassment of congregations.

Four police officers and two government officials broke up the Sunday morning worship service of a house church in Tra n Phu Commune in Hanoi on July 26, announcing that it was illegal to worship and teach religion. The police chief of Tra n Phu Commune in greater Hanoi, Dang Dinh Toi, had ordered the raid.

When Christians under the leadership of Pastor Dang Thi Dinh refused to sign a document admitting they were meeting illegally, an angry police officer shouted, Â"If I find you meeting here next Sunday, I will kill you all like IÂ'd kill a dog!Â" ...

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