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News and Current Events :: Eritrea, Last foreign correspondent expelled

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Eritrea, Last foreign correspondent expelled

On September 9, the last foreign correspondent in Eritrea, Jonah Fisher, who worked with BBC and Reuters, was expell ed from the country without explanation.

According to Fisher, three weeks earlier, Information Minister Ali Abdu Ahmed had criticized his Â"racist negative reporti ng,Â" saying that he Â"knew who I really worked for.Â"

In the past, Eritrea has accused journalists of being foreign spies and jailed them for Â"national securityÂ" reasons.

Fisher had frequently been critical of the human rights violations in Eritrea, including a May 24 article entitled for the Lon don daily, Â"The Independent,Â" Â"To some Eritreans, freedom means prison and tortureÂ". There has been no indepe ndent press in the country since September 2001 and at least fourteen Eritrean journalists are in prison.

Hundreds of Christians are presently in prison in Eritrea because of their faith.

We encourage Christians around the world to pray for their brothers and sisters who are suffering for their faith, often wit hout a voice to let the world know.

The Eritrean government has repeatedly and vehemently denied that anyone is in prison for religious reasons.

From the news flow at Intercessors Network