

# APPENDIX 2

## ERITREAN PRISONER LIST 2015

### Jehovah's Witness Prisoner List 2015

NAME	AGE AT ARREST	SEX	LOCATION	DATE OF ARREST	REASON
Paulos Eyassu	41	Male	Sawa Camp	9/24/1994	Conscientious Objection
Isaac Mogos	38	Male	Sawa Camp	9/24/1994	Conscientious Objection
Negede Teklemariam	40	Male	Sawa Camp	9/24/1994	Conscientious Objection
Aron Abraha	40	Male	Sawa Camp	5/9/2001	Conscientious Objection
Mussie Fessehaya	42	Male	Sawa Camp	6/2003	Conscientious Objection
Ambakom Tsegezab	38	Male	Sawa Camp	2/2004	Conscientious Objection
Bemnet Fessehaye	43	Male	Sawa Camp	2/2005	Conscientious Objection
Henok Ghebru	30	Male	Sawa Camp	2/2005	Conscientious Objection
Worede Kiros	57	Male	Sawa Camp	5/4/2005	Religious Activity
Yonathan Yonas	28	Male	Sawa Camp	11/12/2005	Religious Activity
Kibreab Fessehaye	36	Male	Sawa Camp	12/27/2005	Conscientious Objection
Bereket Abraha Oqbagabir	46	Male	Sawa Camp	1/1/2006	Conscientious Objection
Yosief Fessehaye	25	Male	Sawa Camp	2007	Conscientious Objection
Mogos Gebremeskel	68	Male	Adi-Abieto	7/3/2008	Unknown
Bereket Abraha	67	Male	Meitir Camp	7/8/2008	Unknown
Ermias Ashgedom	24	Male	Meitir Camp	7/11/2008	Unknown
Habtemichael Mekonen	73	Male	Meitir Camp	7/17/2008	Unknown
Tareke Tesfamariam	63	Male	Meitir Camp	8/4/2008	Unknown
Tesfai Teklemariam	61	Male	Meitir Camp	8/8/2004	Unknown
Goitom Aradom	70	Male	Meitir Camp	8/8/2008	Unknown
Habtemichael Tesfamariam	66	Male	Meitir Camp	8/8/2008	Unknown
Tewoldemedhin Habtezion	55	Male	Meitir Camp	8/9/2008	Unknown
Teferi Beyene	73	Male	Meitir Camp	9/23/2008	Unknown
Beyene Abraham	62	Male	Karen Police Station	10/23/2008	Unknown
Asfaha Haile	80	Male	Meitir Camp	12/2/2008	Unknown
Tsehay Leghesse	75	Male	Karen Police Station	12/23/2008	Unknown
Tsegezeab Tesfazghi	65	Male	Meitir Camp	12/23/2008	Unknown
Tsehay Tesfamariam	73	Male	Meitir Camp	1/5/2009	Unknown
Yoab Teclé	63	Male	Meitir Camp	4/23/2009	Unknown
Yoel Tsegezab	38	Male	Meitir Camp	8/26/2008	Conscientious Objection
Nehemiah Hagos	28	Male	Meitir Camp	8/26/2008	Conscientious Objection
Samuel Ghirmay	32	Male	Meitir Camp	3/2009	Conscientious Objection
Teklu Gebrehiwot	39	Male	Meitir Camp	6/28/2009	Religious Meeting

NAME	AGE AT ARREST	SEX	LOCATION	DATE OF ARREST	REASON
Isaias Afeworki	29	Male	Meitir Camp	6/28/2009	Religious Meeting
Isaac Milen	24	Female	Meitir Camp	6/28/2009	Religious Meeting
Faiza Seid	29	Female	Meitir Camp	6/28/2009	Religious Meeting
Tesfazion Gebremichael	72	Male	5th Police Station	7/20/2011	Unknown
Hagos Woldemichael	62	Male	Meitir Camp	4/21/2012	Preaching at a Funeral
Araia Ghebremariam	60	Male	Meitir Camp	4/21/2012	Preaching at a Funeral
Tsegabirhan Berhe	51	Male	Meitir Camp	4/21/2012	Preaching at a Funeral
Daniel Meharizghi	37	Male	Meitir Camp	4/21/2012	Preaching at a Funeral
Yoseph Tesfarmaiam	50	Male	Around Keren	5/2012	Conscientious Objection
Wogahta Dawit	29	Female	Mai-Serwa	7/3/2013	Religious Activity
Gebru Berane	64	Male	2nd Police Station	4/14/2014	Religious Meeting
Tekle Gebrehiwot	58	Male	2nd Police Station	4/14/2014	Religious Meeting
Thomas Tesfagabir	32	Male	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Mordochai Estifanos	20	Male	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Mehari Tewolde	*	Male	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Michael Gashazghi	22	Male	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Liya Hidry	*	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Nigisti Asfaha	48	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Wintana Shiwaseged	25	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Mikaal Tadessee	23	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Emnet Woldai	35	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Salem Ghebrehiwot	19	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Senait Berhane	*	Female	5th Police Station	4/27/2014	Religious Meeting
Bereket Habteyesus	22	Male	2nd Police Station	5/26/2014	Conscientious Objection
Melaku Kahsai	*	Male	2nd Police Station	Unknown	Unkown

# APPENDIX 3

## PAKISTANI PRISONER LIST 2015

### Individuals with pending death sentences or in the process of appeal in Pakistan

NAME(S)	RELIGION	SEX	LOCATION	DATE OF SENTENCE	SECTION	ALLEGATION	SENTENCE
Mohammad Zulfiqar Ali Shafqat Emmanuel	*	Male	Lahore	7/14/2014		Writing blasphemous messages on walls in 2008	Death and 1 million Rs.
Shafqat Emmanuel	Christian	Male	Toba Tek Singh	4/4/2014	295-B, C, D	Sending blasphemous text messages on June 18, 2013	Death
Shugufta Emmanuel	Christian	Female	Toba Tek Singh	4/4/2014	295-B, C, D	Sending blasphemous text messages on June 18, 2013	Death
Savan Masih	Christian	Male	Joseph Colony, Punjab	3/27/2014	295-C	Blasphemy	Death and 200,000 Rs.
Muhammad Asghar	*	Male	Sadiqabad	1/24/2014	295-C	Claiming to be a prophet	Death
Hazrat Ali Shah	*	Male	Barenis Village, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa	12/15/2012	295	Blasphemy	Death and 10 years in prison
Soofi Mohammad Ishaq	Muslim	Male	Talagang/Chakwal	1/20/2012	295-A, C	Claiming to be a prophet	Death and Fined Rs. 200,000
Abdul Sattar	*	Male	Larkana	6/22/11	*	Blasphemy	Death & fined Rs. 50,000
Rafiq	*	Male	Jalalpur Peerwala	2/2/11	*	Blasphemy	Death
Malik Muhammad Ashraf	Muslim	Male	Central Jail (Adiala) Rawalpindi	2/17/10	295-C, 298-A	Derogatory remarks against the Prophet	Death sentence pending
Malik Ashraf	Muslim	Male	Pind Dadan Khan (Punjab)	3/9/10	*	Blasphemy	Death
Ms. Aasia Noreen (Bibi)	Christian	Female	District Jail Sheikhpura	6/19/09	295-C	Derogatory remarks against the Prophet	Death, Rs. 100,000 fine, appeal pending
Muhammad Shafeeq Latif Liaqat	*	Male	Sialkot, Punjab	6/18/08	*	Blasphemy	Death
Liaqat	Muslim	Male	District Jail Faisalabad	3/21/06	295-C	Blasphemy	Death & life imprisonment, confined in central jail Faisalabad
Muhammad Shafiq	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	3/17/06	295-B, C	Passing derogatory remarks about Prophet and burning Quran	Death, 6 months jail, fine Rs. 500,000 -appeal pending
Abdul Hameed	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	3/3/06	295-A,B&C	Proclaimed himself a prophet of Islam, built model of Kaaba in yard	Death & 35 years, fined Rs. 80,000
Anwar Kenneth	Christian	Male	New Central Jail Multan (Multan Jail)	6/15/01	295-C	Distributing pamphlet containing Bible verses	Death and Rs. 500K fine,
Wajihul Hassan aka Murshid Masih	Christian - convert	Male	District Jail Sheikhpura	3/3/99	295-A, C, 298 & 298-A	Writing/passing derogatory remarks	Death, appeal pending

## Individuals sentenced to life in prison for violation of blasphemy laws

NAME	RELIGION	SEX	LOCATION	DATE OF SENTENCE	PENAL CODE SECTION	ALLEGATION	SENTENCE
Malik Mohammad Farooq	*	Male	Karachi district sessions	05/08/2014	*	Tearing up a banner inscribed with Muhammed's name	Life in prison
Sajjad Masih	Christian	Male	Station City Gojra	07/13/2013	295-C	Blasphemy	Life - appeal pending
Manzarul Haq Shah Jahan	*	Male	Kasur	03/17/2012	295-C	Blasphemy	Life and Fined 200,000
Muhammad Mushtaq alias Masta	Muslim	Male	New Central Jail Multan	8/1/11	295-B	Disgracing Qur'an	Life - appeal pending
Imran Ghafoor	Christian	Male	District Jail Faisalabad	7/1/11	295-A, B	Burning pages of Qur'an in front of his shop	Life
Muhammad Ishaq	*	Male	Uch Sharif, Mohallah Qadirabad	1/5/11	*	Blasphemy	Life
Muhammad Safdar	Muslim	Male	New Central Jail Multan	10/1/10	295-B	Blasphemy	Life - appeal pending
Muhammad Shafi	Muslim	Male	New Central Jail Multan	4/8/10	*	Vandalizing poster with Qur'an verses on it	Life, Rs. 200,000 fine, appealed
Muhammad Aslam (son)	*	Male	New Central Jail Multan	4/8/10	*	Vandalizing poster with Qur'an verses on it	Life, Rs. 200,000 fine, appeal pending
Imran Masih	Christian	Male	District Jail Faisalabad	1/1/10	295-A, B	Blasphemy	10 years rigorous, life and fined 100,000/appeal pending
Abdul Kareem	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	6/21/07	295-B	Blasphemy	Life - appeal pending
Inayat Rasool	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	6/23/06	295-B	Putting Qur'an in canal water	Life - appeal pending
Asif	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	6/18/06	295-B	Burning the Qur'an	Life - appeal pending
Arif Mahdi	Muslim	Male	New Central Jail Multan	4/18/06	295-B	Disgracing Islamic booklets.	Life - appeal pending
Imran	Muslim	Male	District Jail Faisalabad	7/1/05	295-B	Blasphemy - after property dispute	Life imprisonment
Shamas ud Din	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	7/1/05	295-A, C	Writing blasphemous letter	Life and 150,000 Rs fine - appeal pending
Maqsood Ahmad	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	6/28/05	295-C	Put Qur'an on floor	Life, fined Rs. 20,000 - appeal pending
Muhammad Shahzad	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	3/24/03	295-B	Assisting Muhammad Yousaf - burning Qur'an	Life - appeal pending
Muhammad Yousaf	Muslim	Male	District Jail Sahiwal	3/24/03	295-B	Burning the Qur'an	Life - appeal pending
Rehmat Ali	Muslim	Male	District Jail Faisalabad	*	295-A, B	Blasphemy	Life

# APPENDIX 4

## AZERBAIJANI PRISONER LIST 2015

### Prominent Muslim leaders and teachers caught up in a government campaign against independent and/or prominent activists, including some who were part of the official Azerbaijani Islamic establishment

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
1	Tale Kamil Bagirov (Bagirzade)	31 Mar 2013	234.1	Labor Camp #12	On 24 March 2013, a week before his arrest, Bagirov gave a speech at a mosque, blaming the authorities for corruption and false arrests, calling on religious followers not to be afraid of “the oppression of a dictator,” and posting the speech to social media. On 1 November 2013, Sabunchu District Court sentenced him to a two year term; In August 2014, his prison term was extended by four months; he is still imprisoned as of this writing.
2	Abdul Neymat Suleymanov	12 Aug 2011	228.1, 233, 234.1, 234.4.3, 283.2.1	Prison #8	Suleymanov is a leader of the Jafari Heylyat (Life of Jafar) Muslim religious congregation in Baku. He was arrested in an official sweep against popular Muslim leaders. He was sentenced to an 11-year term in 10 August 2012 by Baku Court of Grave Crimes. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the sentence on 23 January 2013.
3	Jeyhun Jafarov	10 Mar 2015	Accusations of treason		Jafarov, 42, has led hajj groups to Mecca; led a series on Space TV on religion; translated books by late Iranian Ayatollah Mohammadreza Mahdavi Kani; and led the Evolution Translation Center. On 4 March, he returned with his brother from an 8-day visit to Iran. After their return, Jafarov was ordered to the Ministry of National Security (MNS) secret police on 10 March 2015 and arrested. On 12 March 2015, Baku’s Sabail District Court ordered him held in pre-trial detention in the MNS secret police Investigation Prison in Baku for four months. He was told he is under investigation under Criminal Code Article 274 (“Treason”) with a term ranging from 12 years to life.
4	Elshan Mustafaoglu	Dec 2014	Reportedly accused of treason		On 17 December 2014, the MNS detained theologian Elshan Mustafaoglu. Two days later, the court arrested him for four months. According to some reports, he is charged with treason. Until his arrest, he was press spokesman for the Caucasus Muslim Board, which has not commented on his arrest.

**Religious activists arrested with journalist Nijat Alieyev, editor of www.azad.xeber.az, a Muslim website. Alieyev, other journalists, and young activists were arrested in 2012–2013 for campaigning against the arrests of religious believers as well as for distributing discs with religious materials, including sermons by imprisoned Muslim leaders Abdul Suleymanov and Tale Bagirov.**

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
5	Valeh Mammadaga Abdullayev	9 Dec 2013	167.2.2.1, 281.2, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Abdullayev was sentenced to 8 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013.
6	Gorkhmaz Huseyn Jamalov	18 Jan 2013	167.2.2.1, 281.2, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Jamalov was sentenced to 7 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013.
7	Ali Etibar Aliyev	9 Dec 2013	167.2.2.1, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Aliyev was sentenced to 4 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013.
8	Elimkhan Gurbankhan Huseynov	22 May 2012	167.2.2.1, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Huseynov was sentenced to 7 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013.
9	Samir Khanpasha Huseynov	23 May 2012	167.2.2.1, 228.1, 228.4, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Huseynov was sentenced to 6 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the decision on 27 June 2014.
10	Safar Rovshan Mammadov	9 Dec 2013	167.2.2.1, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Mammadov was sentenced to 3 years and 4 months in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the ruling on 27 June 2014.
11	Elvin Nuraddin Nasirov	20 May 2012	167.2.2.1, 234.4.1, 234.4.3, 281.2, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Nasirov was sentenced to 9 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013.
12	Jeyhun Zabil Safarli	20 May 2012	167.2.2.1, 234.4.1, 234.4.3, 281.2, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Safarli was sentenced to 9 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013. The Baku Court of Appeals upheld the ruling on 27 June 2014.
13	Emin Yadigar Tofidi	16 Jan 2013	167.2.2.1, 283.2.3	Baku Investigative Prison (Kurdakhani Detention Center)	Tofidi was sentenced to 3.5 years in jail under a decision issued by Baku Court of Grave Crimes Judge Zeynal Agayev on 9 December 2013. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the ruling on 27 June 2014.

**Religious activists arrested in the Masalli region along with journalist Araz Guliyev, editor of [www.xeber44.com](http://www.xeber44.com), a website critical of Azerbaijani religion policy. The defendants assisted Guliyev's journalist activity. In 2012, six Muslims from Masalli were arrested on various false charges, including stoning people during a local folk festival.**

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
14	Rza Gorkhmaz Agali	9 Dec 2012	233, 315.2, 324	Prison #14	On 5 April 2013, Agali was sentenced to 7 years in prison under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.
15	Suraj Valeh Agayev	15 Sept 2012	233, 315.2, 324	Prison #5	On 5 April 2013, Agayev was sentenced to 5 years in jail under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.
16	Nijat Yaser Aliyev	18 Sept 2012	233, 315.2, 324	Prison #16	On 5 April 2013, Aliyev was sentenced to 4.5 years in jail under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.
17	Khalid Nofal Kazimov	14 Sept 2012	233, 234.4.3, 315.2, 324	Prison #6	On 5 April 2013, Kazimov was sentenced to 8 years in jail under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.
18	Namig Alisa Kishiyev	18 Sept 2012	233, 315.2, 324	Prison #5	On 5 April 2013, Kishiyev was sentenced to 4.5 years in jail under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.
19	Ziya Ibrahim Tahirov	9 Sept 2012	233, 315.2, 324	Prison #5	On 5 April 2013, Tahirov was sentenced to 7 years in jail under a decision issued by Lankaran Court of Grave Crimes Judge Nizami Guliyev. Shirvan Court of Appeals Judge Kamran Akbarov upheld this ruling on 9 January 2014.

**Cases of those arrested for participation in the 5 October 2012 “Freedom for hijab” public protest. On 10 December 2010, Azerbaijan’s Education Ministry offered that school uniforms had to be worn, thereby in effect banning the hijab (Islamic headscarf.) A May 2011 mass protest was violently dispersed; a second protest in October resulted in mass arrests. There are reports that government provocateurs initiated a confrontation with police that lead to violence and arrests.**

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
20	Tarlan Faiq Agadadashov	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #16	Agadadashov was sentenced to 5.5 years in jail under a 22 April 2013 decision of the Narimanov District Court. The Baku Court of Appeals upheld this ruling on 19 December 2013.
21	Rovshan Huseyn Allahverdiyev	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #16	Allahverdiyev was sentenced to 5.5 years of imprisonment under a 22 April 2013 decision of the Narimanov District Court. The Baku Court of Appeals upheld this ruling on 19 December 2013.
22	Nasimi Yusif Hasanov	6 Oct 2012	228.1, 234.1	Prison #16	Hasanov was arrested in connection with his participation in the “Freedom for hijab” protest but unlike other defendants was not charged with taking part in an unauthorized public demonstration. He was sentenced to 4 years in jail on 27 July 2013.
23	Ilham Bahman Hatamov	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #14	Hatamov was sentenced to 5.5 years in jail under a 22 April 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the ruling on 19 December 2013.
24	David Tarlan Karimov	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #16	Karimov was sentenced to 6 years in jail under a 22 April 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. Baku Court of Appeals upheld this ruling on 19 December 2013.
25	Anar Asgar Gasimli	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #14	Gasimli was sentenced to 5.5 years in jail under a 22 April 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. The Baku Court of Appeals upheld this ruling on 19 December 2013.
26	Aydin Janbakhish Mammadov	5 Oct 2012	233	Prison #17	Mammadov was sentenced to 2 years and 3 months in jail under a 4 June 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. Baku Court of Appeals upheld this ruling in July 2013.
27	Elshad Fikrat Rzayev	23 Feb 2013	233, 315.2	Prison #16	Rzayev was sentenced to 6 years in jail under a 3 June 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. The Baku Court of Appeals upheld the decision in August 2013.
28	Telman Shirali Shiraliyev	5 Oct 2012	233, 315.2	Prison #16	Shiraliyev was sentenced to 6 years in jail under a 22 April 2013 decision of Narimanov District Court. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the decision on 19 December 2013.
29	Ramil Rahim Valiyev	5 Oct 2012	167.2.1, 233, 315.2	Prison #5	Valiyev was sentenced to 6.5 years in jail under a 3 June 2013 decision of the Narimanov District Court. Baku Court of Appeals upheld the decision in August 2013.



**Imam and members of the Sunni Lezgin Mosque in Baku's Old City who work in the Burhan bookshop. As of August 2014, the Lezgin mosque community was told it must vacate its mosque so it can be renovated; In February 2015, Imam Qarayev and four others were arrested on charges of selling texts that had not been officially approved.**

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
30	Mubariz Qarayev	Feb 2015	167.2.1	Pre-trial detention at MNS secret police	Imam of the Sunni Lezgin Mosque in Baku's Old City, and owner of Burhan Muslim bookshop. Arrested with several other bookstore workers.
31	Habibulla Omarov	26 Feb 2015	167.2.2.1	Pre-trial detention at MNS secret police	Bookstore worker.
32	Salim Qasimov	26 Feb 2015	167.2.1	Pre-trial detention at MNS secret police	Bookstore worker.
33	Eyvaz (last name unknown)	26 Feb 2015	167.2.1	Pre-trial detention at MNS secret police	Bookstore worker.
34	Azad Gafarov	26 Feb 2015	167.2.2.1	Pre-trial detention at MNS secret police	Bookstore worker.

### **Two readers of Turkish theologian Said Nursi, whose texts are banned in Azerbaijan**

	NAME	PRETRIAL DETENTION	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
35	Zakariyya Isakh Mammadov	14 Apr 2014	168.1, 167.2.2.1, 299.0.2	MNS Detention Facility	Accused of conducting private religious classes on banned Turkish theologian Said Nursi.
36	Shahin Hasanov	14 Apr 2014	168.1, 167.2.2.1, 299.0.2	MNS Detention Facility	Accused of conducting private religious classes on banned Turkish theologian Said Nursi.

### **Jehovah's Witnesses detained for distributing religious texts not approved by the state**

	NAME	PRETRIAL DETENTION	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
37	Valida Jabrayilova	17 Feb 2015	167.2.2.1	MNS jail, Baku	Charged with distributing religious texts not approved by the state.
38	Irina Zakharchenko	17 Feb 2015	167.2.2.1	MNS jail, Baku	Charged with distributing religious texts not approved by the state.

### **Jehovah's Witness jailed for conscientious objection to compulsory military service**

	NAME	DATE OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
39	Kamran Shikhaliyev	10 Oct 2013	335.1	Disciplinary battalion, Salyan	Conscientious objector to compulsory military service, Jehovah's Witness. In April 2014 Jalilabad Military Court sentenced him to one year in prison. On 16 July 2014 Shirvan Appeal Court denied his appeal.

### **Other cases**

	NAME	DATE OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
40	Zohrab Shikhaliyev	13 Nov 2014	228.1	Prison #1	A Sunni Muslim given a six month jail term for hosting a public prayer room in his home by Judge Azer Ismayilov at Sumgait City Court.

## Religious freedom/Human rights defenders

	NAME	DATES OF ARREST	ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE	PLACE OF DETENTION	STATUS
41	Leyla Yunus (Leyla Islam Yunusova)	30 Jul 2014	274, 178.3.2, 192.2.2, 213.2.2, 320.1, 320.2	Baku Detention Facility	Yunus runs the Institute of Peace and Democracy. She has worked on numerous projects relating to human rights, religious freedom, political persecution, corruption, human trafficking, gender issues, violations of property rights, monitoring of court proceedings, peace initiatives, and more. She has studied the cases of more than 100 political prisoners and revealed their illegal arrest to be entirely politically motivated.
42	Arif Yunus (Arif Seyfulla Yunusov)	30 Jul 2014	274, 178.3.2	Baku Investigative Facility (Kurdakhani prison)	A historian, academic, and expert on Islam, he is the husband of Leyla Yunus. He worked at the Institute of Peace and Democracy.
43	Rasul Agahasan Jafarov	2 Aug 2014	192.2.2, 213.1, 308.2, 179.3.2, 313	Baku Detention Facility (Kurdakhani prison)	Jafarov is a lawyer at the Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety. In 2010, he co-founded the Human Rights Club. A month after presenting a list of political prisoners to a session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), and immediately following the arrest of Leyla Yunus, Jafarov was taken into custody. On 16 April 2015 he was sentenced to 6.5 in prison by the Baku Grave Crimes Court.
44	Intiqam Kamil Aliyev	8 Aug 2014	179.3.2, 192.2.2, 213.1, 308.2	Baku Detention Facility (Kurdakhani Prison)	Head of the Legal Education Society, Aliyev has been involved in human rights advocacy for nearly 20 years, including on religious freedom issues. As a lawyer, he has filed over 300 complaints with the European Court of Human Rights. During a 2014 speech at a PACE session, he criticized the government for political prisoners, attacks on independent NGOs, false charges, arrests of government critics, and mass violations of property rights. He was sentenced to 7.5 years in prison and deprived of holding any position for 3 years by Baku Court on Grave Crimes.

## **Criminal Code Articles:**

28.2 – the criminal liability shall be instituted only for preparation of semi-serious, and serious crimes;

167.2.1 – import, sale, and distribution of religious literature, religious items and other informational materials of a religious nature with the aim of reproduction, sale and distribution without appropriate authorization;

167.2.2.1 – import, sale and distribution of religious literature, religious items and other informational materials of a religious nature with the intent to reproduce, sell and distribute without appropriate authorization, committed with advance agreement by a group of persons or an organized group;

168 – creation of a group carrying out activity under the pretext of spreading a religious faith and carrying out religious activity and by this illegally harming social order, or harming the health of citizens or violating the rights of citizens irrespective of the form of infringement, as well as distracting citizens from performance of duties established by law, as well as leadership of such a group or participation in it;

168.2 – implementation of religious activities and thus infringing rights of the citizens (involving minors in commitment of these acts);

178.3.2 – fraud, with a large amount of damage;

179.3.2 – assignment or waste, through plunder of property entrusted to the guilty party by another person, in a large amount;

180.3.1 – robbery by an organized group;

182.2.2 – Extortion, is requirement to transfer another's property or right on property or commitment of other actions which is admitted as in property nature under threat of application of violence, distribution of data, dishonoring a victim or his close relatives, as well as by threat of destruction of property belonging to them, repeatedly;

192.2.2 – illegal business committed through derivation of income in a large amount;

204.3.1 – manufacturing or selling of counterfeit money or securities by an organized group;

204.3.2 – manufacturing or selling of counterfeit money or securities in a large amount;

213.1 – evasion of taxes or obligatory state social insurance payments in a large amount;

214.2.1 – preparation of a crime committed with advance arrangement by a group of persons, an orga-

nized group, or a criminal community or organization;

213.2.2 – tax evasion, in large amounts;

214.2.3 – preparation of a crime committed with the application of firearms or objects used as a weapon;

218.1 – creation of a criminal organization in order to commit semi-serious or serious crimes, as well as a management of such organizations, structural divisions included, and also the creation of organizers' associations, heads or other representatives of the organized groups with plans to develop and conditions for committing of semi-serious or serious crimes;

218.2 – participation in criminal community (criminal organization) or in association of organizers, heads or other representatives of the organized groups;

221.3 – hooliganism, committed with a weapon or use of items as weapons;

228.1 – illegal purchase, transfer, selling, storage, transportation or carrying of firearms, accessories to it, supplies (except for the smooth-bore hunting weapons and ammunition), and explosives;

228.4 – acquiring, selling, or carrying a weapon;

228.2.1 – illegal purchase, transfer, selling, storage, transportation or carrying of fire-arms, accessories to it, supplies (except for the smooth-bore hunting weapon and ammunition to it), explosives on preliminary arrangement by group of persons;

228.3 – illegal purchase, transfer, sale, storage, transportation, or carrying of firearms, accessories, supplies (except for smooth-bore hunting weapons and ammunition), or explosives, and facilities, committed by an organized group;

228.4 – illegal purchase, selling or carrying of gas weapons, cold steel, including throwing weapon, except for districts where carrying of a cold steel is an accessory of a national suit or connected to hunting;

233 – organization of actions promoting infringement of a social order or active participation in such actions;

234.1 – illegal purchase or storage without a purpose of selling of narcotics or psychotropic substances exceeding an amount necessary for personal consumption;

234.4.1 – illegal purchase or storage without intent to sell of narcotics or psychotropic substances in a quantity exceeding the amount necessary for personal consumption, committed with preliminary arrangement by a group of persons or an organized group;

234.4.3 – illegal purchase or storage without intent to sell

of narcotics or psychotropic substances in a quantity exceeding the amount necessary for personal consumption, in a large amount;

263.1 – violation of traffic rules and rules of operation of vehicles;

274 – treason against the State;

299.1 – payment of money to a witness or victim, with intent to influence them to give false testimonies; to an expert with intent to influence him/her to give a false report or testimony; or to a translator with the intent to influence them to translate incorrectly;

274 – deliberate action committed by a citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic to the detriment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, state security or defensibility of the Azerbaijan Republic: changeover to enemy side, espionage, distribution of state secrets to foreign state, rendering assistance to a foreign state, foreign organization or their representatives resulting in hostile activity against the Azerbaijan Republic;

278 – actions towards the violent capture of power or violent deduction power that infringes on the Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic, as well as actions directed taken towards violent changes of constitutional grounds of the states;

281.2 – public appeals for the violent capture of authority, violent deduction of authority, violent change to constitutional grounds, or infringement of the territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic, as well as distribution of materials of such content, committed by a group of persons;

283.1 – actions directed to incite national, racial or religious hatred or humiliation of national advantage, or actions directed to restrict citizens' rights, or establish the superiority of citizens on the basis of their national or racial belonging or creed, committed publicly or with the use of mass media;

283.2.1 – actions directed to incite national, racial or religious hostility, or humiliation of national advantage, as well as actions directed to restrict citizens' rights, or establish the superiority of citizens on the basis of their national or racial belonging or creed, committed publicly or with the use of mass media committed with the application of violence or with the threat of violence;

283.2.3 – actions directed to incite national, racial, or religious hostility, or humiliation of national advantage, as well as actions directed to restrict citizens' rights,

or establish the superiority of citizens on the basis of their national or racial belonging or creed, committed publicly or with the use of mass media, committed by an organized group;

299.0.2 – violating legislation on holding religious meetings, marches, and other religious ceremonies;

308.2 – abuse of power committed with the intent of affecting the results of an election or referendum;

312.2 – the presentation of a bribe to official for commitment of obviously illegal actions (inaction) by him or repeated presentation of a bribe;

313 – service forgery, that is submission by an official person of official documents containing clearly false data, or amending such documents to invalidate their contents, committed as a mercenary or through other personal interest;

315.2 – resistance or use of force against a representative of authority;

320.1 – forging of official documents;

320.2 – use of forged documents;

324 – actions insulting the state flag or state emblem of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

335.1 – evasion of military service by causing harm to health or in another way;

# APPENDIX 5

## DEFENDING FREEDOMS PROJECT

### PRISONER LIST

#### Defending Freedoms Project Prisoners List

The Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, in conjunction with the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and Amnesty International USA, in 2012 launched the Defending Freedoms Project with the aim of supporting human rights and religious freedom throughout the world with a particular focus on prisoners of conscience.

Specifically, Members of Congress “adopt” prisoners of conscience, standing in solidarity with these brave men and women, while committing to advocate for their release.

The individuals below have been imprisoned for their religious beliefs or actions or their religious freedom advocacy. They are part of a longer list of prisoners of conscience, detained for other reasons, who are included in the Defending Freedoms Project.

#### CHINA

##### Gao Zhisheng

Gao Zhisheng (m, currently under house arrest) is one of the most respected human rights lawyers in China. He has defended activists and religious minorities and documented human rights abuses in China. This award-winning lawyer has handled a number of high-profile human rights cases, including those of Christians in Xinjiang and Falun Gong practitioners. In August 2006, after numerous death threats and continued harassment, Gao disappeared. In 2006, Gao was convicted of “subversion,” and was sentenced to three years in prison. He was incarcerated in December 2011 for allegedly violating the conditions of his suspended three-year sentence. Gao was released from prison on August 7, 2014, and he is now kept under house arrest.

##### Chen Zhenping

Chen Zhenping (f) is a Falun Gong practitioner who was detained in August 2008 for “using a heretical

organization to subvert the law.” She is currently serving an eight-year prison sentence in Henan Provincial Women’s prison. Repeated attempts by her lawyer to visit her since her imprisonment have all been blocked by the authorities. Her family has not been able to see her since March 2009. She has been subjected to regular beatings, been forcibly injected with drugs, and given electric shocks on sensitive parts of her body. Since her imprisonment, authorities have blocked visits from her lawyer, and since November 2009, they have denied information on Chen’s wellbeing.

##### Guo Quan

Guo Quan (m) is a former professor who has been in prison since 2008 under a ten-year sentence for calling for political reform. In 2008, Guo played a leading role in a campaign to protect the rights of demobilized military officers. He also published criticism about the government’s response to the Sichuan earthquake and exposed international human rights violations committed by the Party. He wrote letters to the government throughout 2007 calling for reforms and in December 2007, he announced that China People’s Livelihood Party, an opposition party established by Guo, was renamed as the “New People’s Party of China.” On December 6, 2007, Quan was stripped of his associate professorship at Nanjing Normal University and relocated to the university library to serve as a data management officer.

On November 13, 2008, he was taken into custody by Nanjing police, who also raided his home, where Guo and his wife hosted regular Protestant “house church” activities. His family was informed that he was being criminally detained on suspicion of “inciting subversion of state power.” On June 10, 2009, Guo’s case was recorded on the docket of the Suqian Municipal Intermediate People’s Court in Jiangsu province, and his trial was held on August 7, 2009. On October 16, 2009, the court convicted Guo of “subversion of state power” and sentenced him to a ten-year prison term. Guo’s wife and

son fled to the United States on January 23, 2012, where they are appealing for international help in winning his early release.

### **Alimujiang Yimiti**

Alimujiang Yimiti (m) is a Uyghur Christian who converted from Islam in 1995. He and his wife, Gulinuer, were the leaders of a house church ministry in Kashgar, Xinjiang in the Uyghur Autonomous Region of China. Targeted for his minority faith and ethnicity, on January 12, 2008, the Kashgar police detained Alimujiang on “suspicion of inciting subversion of state power” and “leaking state secrets overseas.” He was formally arrested on those charges on February 28, 2008. Later, the charges were changed to “divulging state secrets to foreign individuals” based on a private conversation the Uyghur Christian pastor held with an American Christian friend.

In 2009, he was sentenced during secret trials to 15 years in prison and 5 years deprivation of political rights. In September 2008, the United Nations Human Rights Council Working Group on Arbitrary Detention stated that ‘the deprivation of liberty of Mr Alimujiang Yimiti is arbitrary, being in contravention of [...] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’ and that he ‘is being kept in detention solely for his religious faith’. For the past several years, Yimiti’s wife has petitioned police officers, government officials, and state agencies, but the officers refused to see them, even barring Alimujiang’s lawyers from visiting him in prison. Yimiti’s quality of life in prison is poor; he was hospitalized in 2009, but prison authorities claimed that it was for a routine health check, even though witnesses claimed that there were signs of brutality. Moreover, on January 23, 2013, prison authorities informed his wife that her monthly visits were being reduced to once every three months, without providing a reason.

### **Pastor Yang Rongli**

Pastor Yang Rongli (f) has been serving a seven-and-a-half-year prison term since 2009 for leading the 50,000-member Linfen Church in Shaanxi province. Yang is a 1982 graduate of the Linfen Normal College’s Chinese department. Because of her excellent academic record, she was retained by the college to teach. She also worked as an editor and reporter. She and her husband,

Wang Xiaoguang, were the leaders of the Jindengtai (Golden Lampstand) Church, a house church in Linfen, Shaanxi province. In 1998, they became the church’s full-time clergy and in the following two decades, the church grew to 50,000 members. On September 13, 2009 at 3 a.m., the local Fushan county government dispatched more than 400 police officers and plainclothes police, led by government officials, to the meeting site of the Fushan Christians and the Gospel Shoe Factory, where they brutally beat Christians staying in a dormitory. More than 100 people were seriously injured. On September 23, armed police surrounded the main Jindengtai church building, and on September 25, Yang and six other church leaders were arrested while traveling to the provincial capital of Taiyuan to petition the government. On November 25, the Yaodu District Court convicted Yang and her husband of “illegal occupation of farmland” and “gathering a mob to create a traffic disturbance.” Yang was sentenced to a seven-year prison term and fined 30,000 yuan (US\$4,755); her husband was sentenced to a three-year term and fined 10,000 yuan (US\$1,585). Yang is currently suffering from diabetes, high blood pressure, and hepatitis, and despite her ailments, she has been denied medical assistance.

### **Tenzin Delek Rinpoche**

Tenzin Delek Rinpoche (m) is a Tibetan Buddhist leader from Garze, Sichuan. Delek has advocated for the protection and preservation of Tibetan culture, religion, and way of life. Over the years, he has built monasteries, provided education for children in remote rural areas, established Buddhist institutions, and promoted social activism in Tibet. In the 1980s, his Holiness the Dalai Lama recognized him as a reincarnated Lama, a title given to those are permitted to teach the Dharma, for his commitment as a Buddhist monk. On April 7, 2002, the government claimed that Delek was involved in bomb blast that occurred on April 3rd in Chengdu, the capital of China’s Sichuan. The evidence linking him to this crime was based on a confession made by a relative of Delek’s during a torture session. However, the relative later retracted his statement, claiming that Delek was not involved in the attack. Despite this claim, Delek was charged with of “inciting Splittism,” and for his alleged actions in the event he was sentenced to death in December 2, 2002. However, due to international pressure, on



January 26, 2005, Delek's sentence was commuted to life in prison. In efforts to free Delek, 40,000 Tibetans, in November 2009, signed a petition asking for a re-trial. Additionally, during that same month, 70 Tibetans were arrested for their participation in a hunger strike that was conducted county seat of Lithang. The case has stirred international controversy for its procedural violations and lack of transparency.

According to the Tibetan Center for Human Rights and Democracy, Delek is in poor health with a worsening heart condition and having suffered nervous breakdowns. He carries a walking stick as a result of his feet becoming injured in prison.

### **Kunchok Tsephel**

Kunchok Tsephel (m) is an official in a Chinese government environmental department and the founder of the first Tibetan literary website, Chodme or Butter Lamp. This website, with assistance from poet Kyabchen Dedrol, was founded in 2005 for the purpose of promoting Tibetan literature and culture in China. The Chinese government actively monitored the website since its beginnings, and on several occasions, authorities have shut down public access to the website. In March 2008, the Chinese authorities began to crackdown in the Tibet Autonomous Region following the anti-government protests in Lhasa and other areas; since the onslaught, over 40 Tibetans have been taken into custody for their works on issues contrary to the party's position. On February 26, 2009, Chinese authorities targeted and detained Kunchok. While being held in their custody, officers searched his home and seized his computer, cell phone, and other personal belongings. For nine months, the government failed to inform Kunchok's family about his arrest and condition. Then on November 12, 2009, his family was summoned to attend the trial at the Intermediate People's Court of Kanlho, only hear that he had been sentenced to 15 years in prison on the charges of disclosing state secrets. Kunchok trial was conducted behind closed doors and he was denied access to a lawyer.

Many believe that published content on his website, especially information regarding the 2008 protests that occurred across the Tibetan plateau, led to his arrest and conviction.

### **Lobsang Tsering**

Lobsang Tsering (m) is a monk from Kirti monastery in Tibet who was detained by the Chinese police in August 2012. In December, the police announced that they had accused Lobsang of inciting the self-immolation of eight Tibetans, even though five of the self-immolations never occurred. While under arrest, the Supreme Court of China, on December 5, 2012, stated that "criminals behind the scenes who plan, incite, aide, abet... and help those perpetrating self-immolations will be investigated for criminal liability in the crime of intentional murder." On January 31, 2013, Lobsang was charged with the "intentional homicide" of eight Tibetans in Ngaba, and as a result, he was sentenced to death with a two year reprieve.

Lobsang was denied the right to a fair trial, according to Xinhua, a state run news agency, acknowledged that Lobsang was not represented by a lawyer during the court proceedings. Additionally, despite a claim made by a judge who told the Global Times that: "authorities obtained sufficient evidence showing it [the alleged crimes] had been instructed by 'forces from abroad.'" According to Xinhua, the only documented form of evidence presented by the court was two confessions made by Lobsang and his nephew, Lobsang Tsering, who was also arrested and tried under the same charges as his uncle. In their statements, they admitted to encouraging Tibetans to self-immolate under the instructions of the Dali Lama. Many question the accuracy of these confessions because Chinese authorities are known to use torture to extract information out of detainees, and it is feared this may have happened in this case.

### **Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Panchen Lama**

Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Panchen Lama (m) has been held by Chinese authorities in a secret location since 1995 when he was six years old, allegedly to keep him safe from "Tibetan Nationalists." China refuses all requests, both domestic and international to see Nyima. The Panchen Lama is a high ranking spiritual leader in the Tibetan Buddhist hierarchy and is passed down by reincarnation. The Dalai Lama selected Gendun Choekyi Nyima in 1995 to be the next Panchen Lama, while Chinese authorities decreed Gyaltzen Norbu to be the next. As the Panchen Lama traditionally is held responsible for the selection of the Dalai Lama, The

Chinese authorities believe it is important to control the Panchen Lama's fate.

According to Chinese government claims, he is attending school and leading a normal life somewhere in China. Chinese officials have stated that Gedhun Choekyi Nyima is a "perfectly ordinary boy" who is in "protective custody," growing up in an "excellent state of health." However, no outside party has been allowed to visit Nyima because state officials claim to keep his whereabouts undisclosed in order to protect him.

### **Bishop James Su Zhimin**

Bishop James Su Zhimin (m) was an unregistered Bishop in the city of Baoding in the Chinese province of Hebei. In 1996, the bishop was arrested during a religious procession for conducting unregistered religious activities. In November 2003, his family discovered him by chance at a hospital in Baoding, surrounded by police and public security. He has not been heard or seen from since, despite repeated international inquiries. In all, he has spent 40 years in prison, without charge, without trial. Before being arrested in 1996, Bishop Su Zhimin was held off and on for 26 years either in prison or forced labor camps. The Chinese government deemed him as "counterrevolutionary" because, since the 1950s, he has refused to join the Patriotic Association, the national Chinese Catholic Church which has detached themselves from the Pope's authority. To this day, if one attempts at identifying or memorializing him or holding public events in his honor have met with hostile police action.

### **Wang Zhiwen**

Wang Zhiwen (m, currently under house arrest) is a former Peoples Republic of China Ministry of Railways engineer, who was seized from bed on July 20, 1999 for his involvement and leadership in Falun Gong. Falun Gong promotes the practice of meditation and slow-moving qigong exercises with a moral philosophy. The movement was banned two days after Wang's arrest, and those who continue to practice are now considered to be dissidents of the state. On December 26, 1999, Wang was sentenced by the Beijing No. 1 Intermediate People's Court to 16 years in prison and four years deprivation of political rights on the charges of, "organizing and using a heretical organization to undermine imple-

mentation of the law," "organizing and using a heretical organization to cause death," and "illegally obtaining state secrets."

On October 18th, 2014, he was released from a Chinese prison after serving 5,475 days in jail. While incarcerated, Wang developed diabetes and high blood pressure, and suffered from a stroke immediately prior to his release. Upon Wang's release from prison, he was immediately sent to what his family describes as a "brainwashing center" for 10 days, and on the 24th of October he was released to house arrest. Wang Zhiwen's family is still pursuing his release from in-home detention, so that he is allowed to leave the country.

### **Li Chang**

Li Chang (m) is a former high-ranking governmental official in the Ministry of Public Security, belonged to the Chinese Communist Party for over 39 years before becoming a member of Falun Gong. Falun Gong is the practice of meditation and slow-moving qigong exercises with a moral philosophy. The practice is not accepted by Party and those who practice it are considered to be dissidents.

Li originally joined the organization to improve his health, but over time he become more involved and eventually took a leading position in the Falun Dafa Research Society, considered to be vocal point for all of Falun Gong operations. Li is linked to organizing a sit-in protest on April 25, 1999 at the housing compound for the highest-level Communist Party leaders. The protest received a significant amount of attention, and consequently, the Party started to take a hard line against its members.

Li Chang put under house arrest for three months on July 20, 1999, two days before the banning of Falun Gong in China. On October 19, 1999 Li was arrested formally and brought to trial on December 26, 1999. He was sentenced to 25 years in prison and five years of deprivation of rights and charged for "Organizing and using a heretical organization to cause death," "Illegally obtaining state secrets," and "Organizing and using a heretical organization to undermine implementation of the law." The courts decided to commute his sentence to 18 years, since he confessed to his involvement with Falun Gong. He is currently being held at Qianjin Prison in Tianjin and is expected to be released in 2017.



## **Ilham Tohti**

Ilham Tohti (m) is a Uyghur economics professor at Beijing's Minzu University, where he was known for his research on Uyghur-Han relations as well as his activism for the implementation of regional autonomy laws in China.

In 2006, Tohti founded UighurOnline, a Chinese-language website devoted to fostering understanding between Uighur and Han people, China's dominant ethnic group. In 2008, authorities shut down his website citing the website's links to Uyghur "extremists" abroad. After the July 5, 2009 ethnic rioting between Uyghurs and Han in Ürümqi, Tohti's whereabouts were unknown after he had been summoned from his home in Beijing. Tohti was subsequently released on August 23, 2009 after international pressure and condemnation.

Tohti was again arrested in January 2014, after police raided his apartment and confiscated his laptops, books, and papers. In September 2014, after a two-day trial, Tohti was found guilty of "separatism" and sentenced to life imprisonment in addition to all of his assets being frozen.

## **Adopted by Representative Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Alimujiang Yimiti**

Adopted by Representative Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Alimujiang Yimiti (m) is a Uyghur Christian from Xinjiang Province now serving a fifteen-year prison term. His home is in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang, and he and his wife have two young sons. While working at a British agri-food company, Alimujiang was the leader of a house church in the city of Kashgar. On September 13, 2007, the Kashgar Religious Affairs Bureau ruled that "Alimujiang Yimiti since 2002 has illegally engaged in religious infiltration under the guise of work, spreading Christianity among the Uyghur people, distributing Christian propaganda and growing [the number of] Christian believers." On January 12, 2008, the Kashgar police criminally detained Alimujiang on "suspicion of inciting subversion of state power" and "leaking state secrets overseas." He was formally arrested on those charges on February 20, 2008. On September 12, 2008, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention ruled in its No. 28 document that Alimujiang's arrest and detention had been arbitrary. In a secret trial on 6 August, the Kashgar Intermediate People's Court sentenced Alimuji-

ang to fifteen years in prison for the crime of "leaking state secrets to foreigners." On March 16, 2010, the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Higher People's Court, without holding a hearing and barring lawyers from court, upheld the Intermediate Court's sentence and added a five-year sentence of deprivation of political rights.

## **Adopted by Representative Mark Meadows (R-NC), Zhang Shaojie**

Adopted by Representative Mark Meadows (R-NC), Zhang Shaojie (m) is a Three-Self church pastor from Nanle County in China's central Henan and former Nanle County Three-Self leader, was detained on Nov. 16, 2013, after a series of land disputes with local authorities. Zhang and more than 20 members of his congregation were charged with "gathering a crowd to disrupt the public order." Zhang was also charged with fraud; the fabricated charge was based on help he gave to another detainee when her son was killed. On July 4, 2014, Zhang was sentenced to 12 years in prison. His final appeal was rejected on August 21, 2014.

## **ERITREA**

### **Eritrean Patriarch Abune Antonios**

Eritrean Patriarch Abune Antonios (m) was deposed by the government in 2006 and placed under house arrest after he protested the Eritrean Department of Religious Affairs' interference in his church's affairs. In January 2005, the Patriarch's annual Nativity message was not broadcast or televised and the Eritrean Holy Synod met in August 2005 with the main purpose of removing all executive authority from the Patriarch. He was allowed to officiate at church services but prohibited from having any administrative role in church affairs. Among the accusations brought against the Patriarch, were his reluctance to excommunicate 3,000 members of the Medhane Alem, an Orthodox Sunday School movement and his demands that the government release imprisoned Christians accused of treason. In January 2006, he was officially removed from his position as head of the Eritrean Orthodox Church and spiritual leader of more than two-million persons and placed under house arrest. On May 27, 2007, the government installed Bishop Dioscoros of Mendefera as the new Patriarch. That same day, Abune Antonios was forcibly removed

from his residence and transported to an undisclosed location. Since then, he has been prevented from communicating with the outside world and reportedly denied medical care.

## **IRAN**

### **Behnam Irani**

Behnam Irani (m) is an evangelical Christian leader from Iran who led a 300-member Church of Iran in Karaj, a city less than 15 minutes outside the capital of Tehran.

In 2011, Irani was sentenced to six years imprisonment for his Christian activities after a raid on a house church in Karaj. In September 2014, Mr. Irani was hit with 18 additional charges, including “Mofsed-e-filarz”, which means “spreading corruption on Earth”, a crime punishable by death. However, in October 2014, this charge was dropped and Irani was sentenced instead to six years imprisonment due to his alleged “acting against national security” and forming “a group to overthrow the government.” In total, Pastor Irani is expected to serve a total of twelve years in prison and is therefore due for release in 2023.

Mr. Irani has faced numerous health problems while in prison, including severe bleeding due to stomach ulcers and colon complications. Mr. Irani is married and has a daughter and son.

### **The Baha’i Seven**

The Baha’i Seven are former Baha’i leaders in Iran who have been deprived of the rights accorded to prisoners under Iran’s own laws and regulations. Prior to their arrests in 2008, the seven were members of an ad hoc national-level group that attended to the spiritual and social needs of Iran’s Baha’i community. In September 2010 they were told that their sentences had been reduced to 10 years after an appeal court acquitted them of some of the charges, including espionage, but they have never been given a written copy of either of the court verdicts. It was first reported on 18 March, 2011 that the 20-year sentence had been reinstated.

### **Jamaloddin Khanjani**

Jamaloddin Khanjani (m) was a successful factory owner who, because he was Baha’i, lost his business after the 1979 Islamic revolution. Khanjani’s volunteer

service to his religious community included membership on the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Iran in 1984, a year in which four of its nine members were executed by the government. Khanjani was arrested and imprisoned at least three times before this most recent incarceration in 2008. He has four children and six grandchildren. His wife, Ashraf Sobhani, passed away on March 10, 2010 while Khanjani was still in prison. On January 5th, 2015, Khanjani was transferred to a hospital in Tehran for health treatment.

### **Afif Naeimi**

Afif Naeimi (m) is an industrialist who was unable to pursue his dream of becoming a doctor because as a Baha’i he was denied access to university. Born in Yazd, he lived part of his youth with relatives in Jordan after the death of his father. He was long active in volunteer Baha’i service, teaching classes for both children and adults and serving as a member of the Auxiliary Board, an appointed position with the function of inspiring, encouraging and promoting learning among Baha’is.

### **Behrouz Tavakkoli**

Behrouz Tavakkoli (m) was a social worker who lost his government job in the early 1980’s because of his Baha’i belief. Prior to his most recent imprisonment, he experienced intermittent detainment and harassment and three years ago, was jailed for four months without charge, spending most of that time in solitary confinement and developing serious kidney and orthotic problems. Mr. Tavakkoli was elected to the local Baha’i governing council in Mashhad while a student at the university there and later served on a similar council in Sari before such institutions were banned in the early 1980’s.

### **Vahid Tizfahm**

Vahid Tizfahm (m) is an optometrist and owner of an optical shop in Tabriz, where he lived until early 2008 when he moved to Tehran. He was born and spent his youth in the city of Urumiyih and went to Tabriz at age eighteen to study to become an optician. He later also studied sociology at the Advanced Baha’i Studies Institute, an affiliate of the Baha’i Institute for Higher Education. Since his youth, Mr. Tizfahm has served the Baha’i community in a variety of capacities – for a time as a member of the Baha’i National Youth Committee and

later as part of the Auxiliary Board, an advisory group that serves to uplift and inspire Baha'i communities.

**Adopted by Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Fariba Kamalabadi**

Adopted by Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Fariba Kamalabadi (f) is a developmental psychologist and mother of three who was arrested twice previously because of her involvement with the Baha'i community. On one of those occasions she was held incommunicado for 10 days. As a youth, Mrs. Kamalabadi was denied the opportunity to study at a public university. In her mid-30s, she embarked on an eight-year period of study and ultimately received an advanced degree from the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education, an alternative institution established by the Baha'i community of Iran to serve young people who were barred from university.

**Adopted by Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Mahvash Sabet**

Adopted by Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Mahvash Sabet (f) is a teacher and school principal who was dismissed from public education for being a Baha'i. Before her arrest, she served for 15 years as director of the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education, which provides alternative higher education for Baha'i youth. She began her professional career as a teacher and also worked as a principal at several schools. In her professional role, she also collaborated with the National Literacy Committee of Iran. After the Islamic revolution, like thousands of other Iranian Baha'i educators, she was fired from her job and blocked from working in public education.

**Adopted by Representative Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Saeid Rezaie**

Adopted by Representative Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Saeid Rezaie (m) is an agricultural engineer who has run a successful farming equipment business for more than twenty years. During the early 1980's, when persecution of Baha'is was intense, he moved first to northern Iran and worked as a farming manager and then to Kerman to work as a carpenter, in part because of the difficulties Baha'is faced in finding formal employment or operating businesses. His two daughters, both in their twenties, were among a group of fifty-four young Baha'is

arrested in Shiraz in 2006 while working on a project aimed at helping underprivileged young people. In 2006, before his latest incarceration in 2008, Mr. Rezaie was arrested and detained for a period that included forty days in solitary confinement.

**Sima Eshraghi**

Sima Eshraghi (f) – A member of the Baha'I community in Iran, she was summoned by the Mashhad Revolutionary court in November of 2010 and was transferred to Vakilabad Prison. Sima was sentenced to five years in prison. She has two children and one of her children, Sina Aghdaszadeh, was recently released on bail by the Mashhad Intelligence Office after two months in custody and is currently awaiting trial.

**Adopted by Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN), Ayatollah Mohammad Kazemeini Boroujerdi**

Adopted by Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN), Ayatollah Mohammad Kazemeini Boroujerdi (m) is a Shi'a cleric who advocates for the separation of religion and state and has spoken out on behalf of the rights of Iran's religious minorities as well as those of its Shi'a Muslim majority. In October 2006, he was arrested and imprisoned without charge. He and seventeen of his followers were tried by a special court with jurisdiction over Shi'a clerics and sentenced to death on spurious charges, including "enmity against God" and spreading propaganda against the regime. After an appeal, the death sentence was withdrawn and Ayatollah Boroujerdi was sentenced to eleven years in prison. He currently is serving his prison term, and the government has banned him from practicing his clerical duties and confiscated his home and belongings. He has suffered physical and mental abuse while in prison.

**Adopted by Representative Trent Franks (R-AZ), Saeed Abedini**

Adopted by Representative Trent Franks (R-AZ), Saeed Abedini (m) is a father and husband from Idaho who currently is imprisoned in Evin Prison. Saeed is a dual national of the United States (via naturalization) and Iran (by birth). He has broken no codified Iranian law, but has been sentenced to eight years in prison for practicing his Christian faith. In the last year, he has been arrested, given a sham trial before a notoriously biased judge,

threatened with death, beaten, and denied life-saving medical treatment. [Also adopted by Representatives Raul Labrador (R-ID) and Henry Waxman (D-CA)]

### **Adopted by Representative Jeff Duncan (R-SC), Farshid Fathi**

Adopted by Representative Jeff Duncan (R-SC), Farshid Fathi (m) is a Christian pastor who ran a network of house churches in Tehran. Iranian officials arrested him on December 26, 2010. Pastor Fathi currently is serving a 6-year sentence in Iran's notorious Evin prison. Farshid left Iran to attend seminary in Turkey and then pursued additional training in London with his wife before returning to Iran. Farshid reportedly is imprisoned alongside Saeed Abedini (see above). Though his crime is being a Christian and spreading his faith, Iranian authorities have cast his Christian activity as "political offenses," arguing that his Christian activities were equivalent to "actions against national security." He also was charged with possessing religious propaganda. At trial, the regime offered as evidence that Pastor Fathi had Bibles printed in Farsi, unlawfully distributed them, and possessed Christian literature. The regime also made it difficult for his lawyers to present a defense by denying them full access to the case until just a few days before trial.

## **KAZAKHSTAN**

### **Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev**

Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev (m) led the Presbyterian Grace Church in Astana. He has been jailed since May 2013. For a period of time he was detained in a psychiatric hospital where he was forcibly administered psychotropic drugs, a notorious Soviet form of punishment. While he was released from the psychiatric hospital, he was rearrested on charges of extremism. These serious charges carry a possible prison term of three to seven years, with grave implications for both Pastor Kashkumbayev and the Grace Church. The Pastor was arrested on May 17, 2013 on charges of "intentional infliction of serious harm to health" to parishioner Lyazzat Almenova but her mother called for the case against the pastor to be dropped. The pastor's pre-trial detention was extended on October 7 until November 17 and he was then supposed to be transferred from prison to house arrest. Finally, after the Pastor's very brief reunion

in prison with his family he was re-arrested and charged with acts of "propaganda of terrorism or extremism or public calls to commit an act of terrorism or extremism as well as the distribution of material of the content indicated." Pastor Bakhytzhan Kashkumbaev was released on Feb. 17, 2014 after spending nine months in jail awaiting trial. He was convicted of the charge and received a four-year suspended sentence. Although four other charges were dropped, some fear that new charges could be filed. Pastor Kashkumbaev was freed after court proceedings and returned to the home he shares with his wife, Alfiya. He plans to appeal the conviction.

## **PAKISTAN**

### **Adopted by Representative Joseph Pitts (R-PA), Asia Bibi**

Adopted by Representative Joseph Pitts (R-PA), Asia Bibi is a Catholic mother of five and was a farmhand from the village of Ittan Wali in Sheikhpura District of Punjab province. In June 2009, an argument arose with her fellow labors over whether the water she brought was "unclean" because she was Christian and they Muslim. Later coworkers complained to a cleric that Bibi made derogatory comments about Prophet Muhammad. Police investigated her remarks, which resulted in her arrest and prosecution under Section 295 C of the Pakistan Penal Code for blasphemy. She spent more than a year in jail. On November 8, 2010, a district court in Nankana Sahib, Punjab, sentenced her to death for blasphemy, the first such sentence for blasphemy handed down against a woman. The death penalty is permissible under Pakistani law. On October 16, 2014, the Lahore High Court dismissed her appeal and upheld her death sentence. Her lawyers plan to appeal to the Supreme Court.

## **SAUDI ARABIA**

### **Hamad al-Naqi**

Hamad al-Naqi (m) is a Shia Muslim who in February and March 2012 allegedly made a series of posts on Twitter critical of the Prophet Muhammad, his wife, his followers, and the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. Several members of the National Assembly of Kuwait called for his death. Al-Naqi pled not guilty, arguing that he had not posted the messages, and that his account had been hacked. In June 2012, Al-Naqi was found guilty

of “insulting the Prophet, the Prophet’s wife and companions, mocking Islam, provoking sectarian tensions, insulting the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain and misusing his mobile phone to spread the comments” and sentenced to ten years in prison. Al-Naqi was attacked within weeks of entering prison and has been held in solitary confinement for safety reasons. His lawyers appealed his sentence but, in July 2014, Kuwait’s top court upheld his ten-year sentence.

Dr. Medani previously served as head of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) office in the West Bank and Gaza, Chief of Mission of the OHCHR in Zagreb, Croatia, legal advisor to the Special Representative of the U.N Secretary-General in Iraq as well as Afghanistan, and a Regional Representative for the OHCHR in Beirut, Lebanon. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh in comparative Criminal Law.

## **VIETNAM**

### **Francis Jang Xuan Dieu**

Francis Jang Xuan Dieu (m) is a Catholic intellectual and activist. Dieu is well known in Vietnam for his efforts to advocate for increased child education access and awareness of political prisoners in Vietnamese jails. In August of 2011, Dieu was arrested along with a group of other Vietnamese Catholics and charged with trying to “overthrow the people’s administration.” He was sentenced to 13 years in prison, plus five years under supervision. Dieu’s family has been denied access to Dieu.

### **Adopted by Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ), Father Nguyen Van Ly**

Adopted by Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ), Father Nguyen Van Ly has spent over 15 years in prison for the causes of religious freedom, democracy, and human rights. Initially arrested in September 1977 and sentenced to 20 years in a labor camp near Hue, he was later released but prohibited from engaging in religious activities. He was returned to jail in 2001 when he submitted testimony to the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom opposing a U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Act. On March 30, 2007, in a broadcasted show trial, authorities muzzled him while he tried to defend himself. He is a one of the founders of Bloc 8406 and past editor of an underground publication.

### **Adopted by Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Nguyen Van Lia**

Adopted by Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Nguyen Van Lia (m) is a longtime adherent of Hoa Hao Buddhism, a religious group often suppressed by the government, and the co-author of several Hoa Hao Buddhist religious instruction texts and books. He is charged with violating article 258 of the penal code for “abusing democratic freedoms to infringe upon the interests of the state,” a crime that could result in a sentence of up to seven years. According to state media, he possessed printed materials, CD’s, and DVD’s criticizing the Vietnamese government’s religious record. He had previously met with the U.S. Consulate and USCIRF officials in Saigon. He was sentenced to a five-year term on December 13, 2011 on the charge of “abusing democratic freedoms.”

### **Adopted by Representative Ted Poe, (R-TX), Duong Kim Khai Duong**

Adopted by Representative Ted Poe, (R-TX), Duong Kim Khai Duong (m) is a pastor for the Mennonite Church in Vietnam, a long-time advocate for aggrieved farmers, a democracy activist and member of Viet Tan, an organization advocating for democracy. Since the early 1990’s, he has been detained or arrested thirteen times, often while trying to organize prayer sessions. He was jailed in 2004 for starting an “illegal” religious group. Upon his release in 2006, he founded the Mennonite Cattle Shed Congregation in order to advocate for religious freedom and social justice, particularly to provide assistance to farmers so they could petition the government for redress in land disputes or corruption cases in Ben Tre and Dong Thap provinces. He also joined Viet Tan during this period. Pastor Duong Kim Khai was arrested on August 10, 2010 on the charge of “attempting to overthrow the government.” The condition of his health and place of detention were kept from his family by authorities until October 12, 2010, when it received written confirmation of his arrest. On May 30, 2011, he was sentenced to a six-year prison term (later reduced to five years) followed by five-year term of house arrest. In 2011, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention ruled that the Hanoi government’s detention and conviction of Pastor Duong Kim Khai and six other land activists were in violation of international law.