

Dear Friends and Supporters.

The **May 2024** issue of the **Caucus Newsletter for the Persecuted Church** and other religious minorities is now available from c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com

The newsletter opens with two reports by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom documenting the deteriorating situations in China and India.

In Nigeria six more Christians are murdered by Islamists – but there is some good news: thanks largely to the *Cameroon* military, 135 women, 206 children, and 6 men, have been freed from a Boko Haram terrorist stronghold.

There is a report of several attacks on a Coptic Christian village in Egypt.

More Protestant and Catholic clergy are arrested in Nicaragua where no-one seems to be safe.

A grossly insensitive example of growing antisemitism in Europe was displayed by a pro-Palestinian demonstration outside of Auschwitz on Holocaust Remembrance Day.

UK: Baroness Cox's House of Lords speech concerning persecution in several countries is reproduced. There is a brief expose of the true motivation for Islamist Ahmed Alil's murder of Terence Carney. And, also in the UK, there is criticism of the unseemly press attack on SNP candidate Kate Forbes because of her Christian faith.

In France six more churches are attacked by arson - in addition to the hundreds previously reported in this newsletter. These attacks hardly seem to register in the mainstream media in France being suppressed, no doubt, to avoid inflaming worsening inter-faith tensions.

Finally, and tragically, there are two back-to-back reports of multiple abductions, rapes, and forced marriages of Christian children in Pakistan.

The newsletter ends with the usual list of NGOs who provide vitally important aid advocacy spiritual and practical support for persecuted Christians; clicking on their websites reveals the many *positive* things they do, and which represents a welcome antidote to the discrimination and violence within the main report.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support. Do use this information to bring these matters to the attention of your MPs, friends and families, and your churches mosques temples and synagogues.

Dr Russell Blacker / Caucus for the Persecuted Church - TR17 – May 2024