

Dr Russell Blacker summarises the August 2019 edition of the Caucus for the Persecuted Church Newsletter.

To obtain a copy of the full newsletter please contact him on c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com.

The recommendations of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office commissioned Review of the Persecution of Christians have now been accepted in full by the new Govt under Prime Minister Boris Johnson. This edition focusses again on anti-semitism and documented increases in attacks on Jews in the UK, Europe and the US.

This is matched by a huge increase in attacks on churches – 2000 churches in France have been desecrated in the last 2 years alone. Western politicians and media elites remain silent about this but Far Left, Far Right and radical Islamist groups are all implicated.

Meanwhile, a leaked internal report shows high levels of corruption antisemitism and incitement to violence within the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) which supports Palestinian refugees. [The UK is one of the biggest donors to UNRWA]. And the UN names Israel as only country which violates womens' rights!!

There is a frank, sobering – and prophetic - interview with Archbishop Bashar Warda about the future of Christianity in the Middle East -and in the West._

From Turkey where Christianity is being squeezed out, there is a renewed wave of refugees, and in Greece, where they end up, the International Christian Consulate are doing valuable work rescuing traumatised Christians from the camps where they experience threats violence and rape.

Muslims are standing up against anti-semitism in Europe and in Kenya they warn and protect Christian hospital workers.

However, in Cameroon Women are targeted and disfigured as Boko Haram strikes again. In Mali Barnabas Fund is providing urgent aid to 785 Christians,

including 433 children, displaced by recent terrorist attacks. And in Eritrea 150 Christians arrested in yet another Govt clampdown.

From India come reports of further violent assaults on mainly Dalit Christian congregations. Prime Minister Modi is urged to take action against extremists after repeated attacks and there are nation-wide protests against the continuing discrimination suffered by low-caste Christians and Muslims.

In Sri Lanka Buddhist monks viciously beat a Bible college student whilst UK Christian NGOs are supporting 176 children whose parents were in the Easter bombings.

A Pastor is shot dead after Peace Protests in Colombia and a pastor murdered in the Philippines.

The newsletter ends with the websites of a range of trusted aid and advocacy organisations who care for persecuted minorities – rebuilding homes and lives and articulating ways in which our readers can really make a difference to the plight of literally millions of people worldwide.

Do feel free to pass on this newsletter to friends and colleagues or use the material for presentations, fund-raising, prayer groups, and writing to your political representatives.

Kind regards

Dr Russell Blacker and colleagues:

The Caucus for the Persecuted Church