

Dear Friends and Supporters.

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

There are several articles on the particular difficulty Christians face in Lebanon where they find themselves caught between a rock and a hard place.

China – and its ally Iran - are using AI to 'track and repress' Christians like never before. And in China a Falun Gong practitioner is persecuted to death only 5 Days after arriving in a notorious prison.

There are articles examining the continuing abuse of Pakistan's Blasphemy Laws including Muslim 'vigilantes' who are shopping Christians for financial gain. Also in Pakistan a 17-Year-Old Christian is forcibly converted to Islam by his employer. The EU calls for Pakistan to be suspended from the Commonwealth because of human rights abuses.

The International Criminal Court announces a renewed investigation into human rights abuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In Nigeria Fulani herdsmen kill seven more Christians and in Uganda a pastor and his family are burned to death in yet another Islamist attack.

Canada's churches are still being burned down in response to fake news – and there has also been a staggering 670% increase in antisemitic hate crimes since the October 7 attack.

In Australia a Methodist College forces students to remove 'offensive' cross necklaces; in a parallel incident in the UK a charity apologizes to a hospital chaplain who was rebuked by his Methodist Minister supervisor for wearing an 'offensive' cross.

In the UK official figures show that religious hate crimes are at record levels significant proportion of which originate from Far-Left anti-Semitism operating in conjunction with Islamists. A conference of Religious Freedom Experts from around the world raise concerns about "increasing intolerance" toward people of faith in Europe and North America.

The newsletter ends with the usual list of NGOs who provide vitally important aid advocacy plus spiritual and practical support for persecuted Christians and other minorities; clicking on their websites reveals the tremendous things they do and which is a welcome antidote to the catalogue of discrimination and violence in the main report.

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

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