

Perpetrator Information



Full Legal Name of Perpetrator: Tran Ky Roi (in Vietnamese: Trần Kỳ Roi)¹

Country: Vietnam

Title or Position: Brigadier General, Director of Police Department of Dak Lak Province (retired June 2018)

Date of DoB: May 19, 1958

Place of DoB: Thua Thien – Hue Province



Full Legal Name of Perpetrator: Nguyen The Luc (in Vietnamese: Nguyễn Thế Lực)²

Country: Vietnam

Title or Position: Colonel, Deputy Director of Police Department of Dak Lak Province

Date of DoB:

Place of DoB:

¹ <https://vietnammoi.vn/nguoi-thay-tuong-tran-ky-roi-lam-giam-doc-cong-an-tinh-dak-lak-la-ai-113235.htm>

² <https://vietnammoi.vn/nguoi-thay-tuong-tran-ky-roi-lam-giam-doc-cong-an-tinh-dak-lak-la-ai-113235.htm>



Full Legal Name of Perpetrator: Truong Hong Quy (in Vietnamese: Trương Hồng Quý)

Country: Vietnam

Title or Position: Senior Lt. Colonel, Commander, Internal Security Office, Dak Lak Province

Date of DoB:

Place of DoB:

Basis for IRFA sanctions: Forced conversion through harassment, multiple interrogations, torture, imprisonment, denial of medical care, and intimidation of victims who are Christians living in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, including many Montagnard (ethnic minorities living in the Central Highlands and other remote, primarily mountainous regions).

Command responsibility: Command responsibility is established in three ways.

(1) Violations have happened in a coordinated manner, targeting specific Montagnard house churches across the Dak Lak Province; persecution against Montagnard Christians increased significantly in 2018 and 2019. Such systematic and on-going persecution of Montagnard Christians emanated from the policy of the Central Highlands Steering Committee, founded in 2002 by the Vietnamese Communist Party. In 2004, the Ministry of Public Security established its Central Highlands Security Bureau (PA 90) to coordinate the implementation of policies set by the Central Highlands Steering Committee. This policy was explicitly stated in an article published on the official website of the Ministry of Public Security and the Police Department of Gia Lai Province has been repeatedly recognized for successful implementation of this policy:

Brigadier General Tran Ky Roi, as Director of the Police Department of Dak Lak Province until his retirement in June 2018, carried out the policy set by the Central Highlands Steering Committee and under the directives of the Central Highlands Security Bureau. An article titled “With the trust and love of the people, we will definitely succeed” published on May 7, 2014 in the official organ of the Government of Dak Lak Province extolled the successful implementation of this policy: *“Many PA90 officers said that they lost track of the number of days spent among the people each month, but they felt re-invigorated each time they brought down a FULRO organization to enhance the ethnic communities' security and prosperity.”* See <http://baoDakLak.vn/channel/3484/201405/dan-tin-dan-yeu-nhat-dinh-thanh-cong-2310870/>

Colonel Nguyen The Luc, Deputy Director of the Police Department of Dak Lak Province, was shown in a two-part story broadcasted on An Ninh Television (ANTV), the official television

program of the Ministry of Public Security, falsely denouncing the Montagnard house churches as units of an anti-government movement: “*FULRO aims to achieve independence for the Central Highlands ethnic minorities and needs to recruit followers using religion as a bait.*”³

An innocuous visit by a North Carolina-based American Baptist pastor, Pastor Gene Lathan, in July 2019 to Dak Lak Province, where he prayed with adherents from Central Highlands house churches, including the International Degar Church (aka Degar Evangelical Church) and the Montagnard Evangelical Church of Christ (MECC), was portrayed in the story as evidence of Montagnard Christians’ plot to oppose the government.

Senior Lt. Colonel Truong Hong Quy, Commander of the Internal Security Office of the Dak Lak Province Police Department, was shown on the same television show talking about his exploits in successfully eliminating the MECC (MECC) in Dak Lak Province. He was quoted saying: “The ‘religious cover’ trick is extremely dangerous, their ultimate goal is to establish their own government and secede from our country...”⁴. The video announced the arrest of adherents of the MECC and the destruction of this house church in Dak Lak. He reportedly had directly conducted many raids against the independent Montagnard house churches.

(2) The Dak Lak Province Police Department is fully aware of the many egregious violations of religious freedom through requests for investigation submitted by the victims. The said ANTV news story emphatically announced that The MECC (MECC) had been destroyed; it went on to report the recent arrest of 30 adherents of this church under the Security Police Plan No. KH 96210.

(3) The Dak Lak Province Police Department has been forwarded, via Vietnam’s central government, inquiries from UN mandate holders on reported human rights violations. The Police Department either deNiêd outright any violations or presented false information in the face of clear evidence. In its January 24, 2017 response to UN inquiries, the Vietnamese Government acknowledged some of incidents but concluded that “The above-mentioned individuals [members of the MECC] declared that they had not been tortured imprisoned, insulted or prevented from practicing their belief” in direct contrast to what the Police Department stated on television: complete destruction of the MECC. See: <http://dvov.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2017-01-24-GVN-HRC-Response-to-Religious-Freedom-Violations.pdf>

In its response dated April 25, 2019, the Vietnamese Government confirmed that it had arrested two members of the Gospel Evangelical Missionary (aka Good News Mission) Church in Dak Lak Province for disseminating “distorted information on the policies of the State to mislead the local people about the State policies regarding ethnic minorities, defaming the State by making up stories about Government's violation of human rights and repression of religious or ethnic

³ <https://youtu.be/fuAcdWOFZ0w>, at minute 6:05, September 27, 2019 video shown on **Security Police TV (ANTV)**, Vietnam

⁴ <https://youtu.be/fuAcdWOFZ0w> at minute 2:47, September 27, 2019 video shown on **Security Police TV (ANTV)**, Vietnam

groups.” See: <http://dvov.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Vietnam-Response-04-25-19.pdf>. They were subsequently sentenced to 9 and 14 years in prison.

Impact of applying IRFA visa restrictions to perpetrators: The U.S. Government has repeatedly raised its concern to the Government of Vietnam at human rights dialogues and on many other occasions, but persecution against the independent house churches in Dak Lak Province continues unabated. The targeted sanctions would send a clear message that the U.S. Government takes seriously the ongoing, systematic and egregious persecution against Montagnard house churches in Dak Lak Province. In the short-term, the Police Department of Dak Lak Province may now have to think twice before committing the next act of violence against members of the MECC (aka Evangelical Church of Christ of Vietnam), the Gospel Evangelical Missionary Church or the Dega Evangelical Church (aka International Degar Church). In the longer term, the sanctions may compel the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party to rethink its policy towards Montagnard Christians in the Central Highlands.

Availability of witnesses: Y Phic H’dok, a young Montagnard Christian whose father was believed to be murdered by the police in Dak Lak Province, is currently in the United States. He stands ready to testify about the policy of the Police Department of Dak Lak Province towards Montagnard house churches. The Vietnamese police posted his photograph from an event he participated in in the week of the July 2019 Ministerial in Washington, DC ,with a large X in the center, signifying their loath of him.



For more detailed information, see the Appendices:

Appendix A – Policy of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party towards independent Montagnard house churches in the Central Highlands of Vietnam

Appendix B – Summary statistics of reported violations of religious freedom of Montagnard Christians in Dak Lak Province

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Appendix D – List of incident reports submitted to UN mandate holders on gross violations of religious freedom committed by the police in Dak Lak Province

Appendix E – List of current religious prisoners of conscience among Montagnard Christians from Dak Lak Province.

Appendix A –Policy of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party towards independent Montagnard house churches in the Central Highlands of Vietnam

Persecution against Montagnard Christians emanated from policies at the provincial and regional, if not central, government levels. We can trace the regional policy to the Central Highlands Steering Committee, founded in 2002 by the Vietnamese Communist Party. In 2004, the Ministry of Public Security established its Central Highlands Security Bureau (PA 90) to coordinate the implementation of policies set by the Central Highlands Steering Committee.⁵ Several prominent sources (including government websites associated with the Public Security Ministry and Prime Minister’s office) discussed very explicitly the need to “eradicate the evil cults” - the official characterization of the various unapproved Montagnard Christian denominations that have been so thoroughly persecuted. The 2017 report cited articles such as the one titled “Those who rescue the people from darkness”, dated February 27, 2015, and published on Public Security Minister Quang’s website: “...*When I arrived in the Central Highlands, our task of rescuing the people from the evil Hà Mòn cult was accomplished only recently. The Security Team of the Police Force of the Town of Kon Tum performed deeds that were representative of the indefatigable efforts of security forces throughout the Central Highlands in our fight against reactionary enemy forces disguised as ethnic religious groups...*” <http://trandaiquang.org/nhung-nguoi-cuu-dan-ra-khoi-bong-toi-u-me.html>

Equally explicit material was in another article by the Public Security Ministry:

“Through 10 years of growth and combatting the enemy, a more mature Ethnic Communities Security Office (PA90) of Gia Lai Province, in coordination with the local government and the people, has derailed plots by the reactionary FULRO and contributed to the security of the region. From 2004 on, the Office has unmasked and dealt with several FULRO organizations, “Dega Evangelical Church”, and established 3 projects to end FULRO elements’ operation out of the forest. The Office captured 12 Hà Mòn Cult adherents, convinced 69 fugitives to give themselves up, made substantial progress in resolving the Hà Mòn Cult issue, and achieved several other unheralded successes.

With its outstanding results, PA90 has been honored 4 times with the President’s Order of Merit while its employees have been honored with several other awards from the President, the Prime Minister, and other officials.” Source: Public Security Ministry, Heroes in the battle against FULRO”. See <http://vnca.cand.com.vn/Truyen-thong/Nhung-nguoi-linh-anh-hung-chong-Fulro-350266>

Material from the website of the former public security minister of Vietnam reveals the national policy of suppressing Christianity among Montagnard communities.

Police General & Public Security Minister Trần Đại Quang (b. October 12, 1956 in Quang Thiện Commune, Kim Sơn District, Ninh Bình Province - deceased in 2018 after being elected the President of Vietnam), former Chair of Central Highlands Steering Committee (2011-2016): In the capacity of the Chair of Central Highlands Steering Committee, he supervised the Central Highlands Security Bureau (PA90) in the suppression of independent house churches of ethnic

⁵ Vietnam’s Persecution against Montagnard Christians in the Central Highlands (BPSOS 2017)

minorities in the Central Highlands. His direct involvement has been widely reported in the Vietnamese official media.

Reflecting the policy set out by the Central Highlands Steering Committee, on June 14, 2013 *World Security*, an official publication of Vietnam's Public Security Ministry, published the article titled "Ha Mon Cult, a FULRO Trick" justifying the crackdown against Montagnard Christians: "...FULRO elements continued to take advantage of the Catholics' belief in the Virgin's miraculous appearances to make up the "Ha Mon Cult" in the Central Highlands to deceive citizens...incite citizens to oppose the government...to supply FULRO members hiding in the forest...". See <http://antg.cand.com.vn/Ho-so-Interpol/Dao-Ha-Mon-%E2%80%93-Tro-doi-tra-cua-bon-phan-dong-Fulro-306015/>

On January 17, 2014, General Quang presided over the Central Highlands Steering Committee conference to review the progress made in 2013 and launch programs for 2014. According to the article titled "Eradicate reactionary Fulro, and the evil cults of Ha Mon and Dega Protestantism" and published on then-Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung's website, General Quang reportedly said: "...To enable a stable development for the Central Highlands in 2014 and subsequent years, we must focus on the following measures:... strive to prevent and deter criminal activities, eradicate reactionary FULRO organizations, the evil "Hà Môn" and "Dega Protestant" sects; implement well our policies towards the people and religion, and further strengthen national solidarity." Source: Nguyen Tan Dung website, . <http://nguyentandung.org/xoa-bo-to-chuc-phan-dong-fulro-ta-dao-ha-mon-va-tin-lanh-dega.html>

On July 7, 2014, addressing the Central Highlands Security Bureau, he called on it to "...increase activities to be able to assess the situation, to detect, counter, and prevent hostile elements and FULRO's plots; to neutralize efforts in reviving reactionary organizations; and to eradicate the evil cult "Hà Môn" (translator's note: a Central Highlands sect focusing on the worship of Jesus's mother). " Source: Ministry of Public Security, 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the Central Highlands Security Bureau. See <http://cand.com.vn/Cong-an/Cuc-An-ninh-Tay-Nguyen-Ky-Niem-10-nam-ngay-thanh-lap-va-don-nhan-danh-hieu-Anh-hung-Luc-luong-vu-trang-nhan-dan-266454/>

Appendix B -- Summary statistics of reported violations of religious freedom of Montagnard Christians in Dak Lak Province

Sanctions against the above perpetrators would protect an entire class of persecuted Christians: Montagnard Christians, and particularly members of the outlawed MECC. In the 1960s American missionaries introduced Protestantism to the Montagnard population in the Central Highlands; as reason for forcing Montagnard Christians to renounce their faith, the Vietnamese government often alleges that Protestantism is an American religion.⁶

The persecution against Montagnard Christians is systemic and follows the policy set out in 2002 by the Communist Party’s Central Highlands Steering Committee. In 2004 the Ministry of Public Security established its Central Highlands Security Bureau (PA90) to coordinate the implementation of this policy. The following chart shows that the Police Department of Dak Lak Province has most vehemently implemented this policy compared to all other provinces in the Central Highlands.

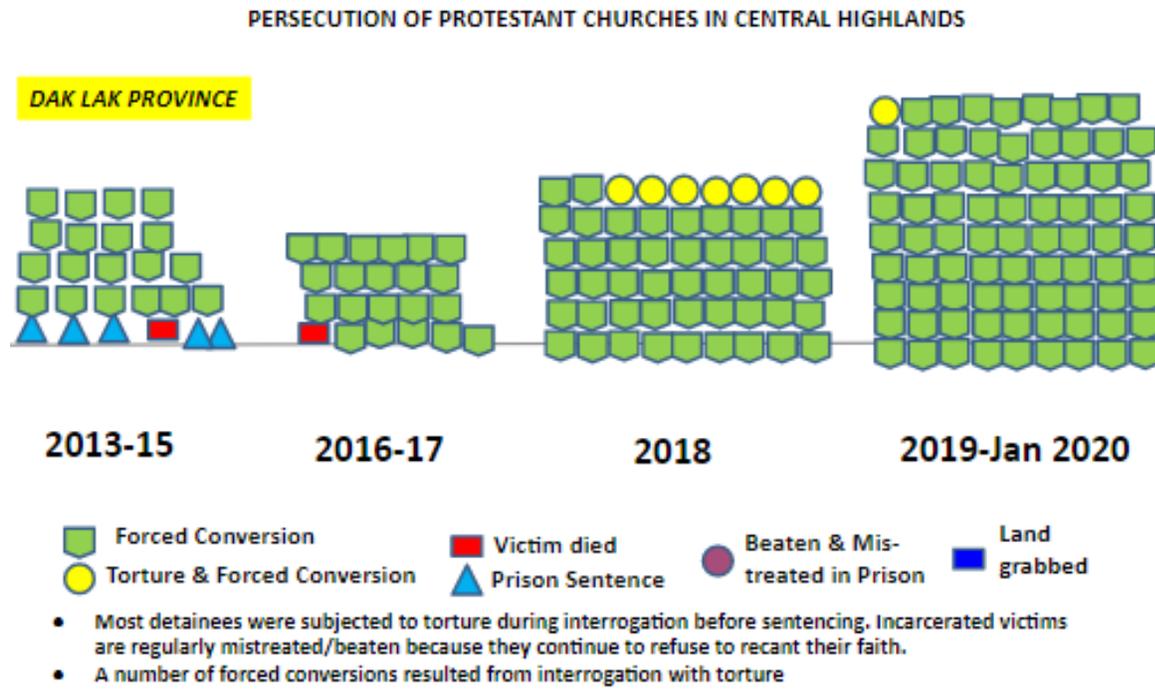


Figure 1. Religious Freedom Violation Incidents Reported by Victims (submitted to UN Special Procedures) – Note: Each symbol represents an individual being persecuted on a specific day – can be the same individual on a different day or a different individual on the same day – this characterization allows one to compare the persecution severity among different provinces.

⁶ Repression of Montagnards, Human Rights Watch, April 2002: <https://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/vietnam/viet0402-08.htm>

Following Pastor Gene Lathan’s visit to the home of a MECC adherent in Dak Lak Province in July 2019, the police hunted down all those who came to hear Pastor Lathan’s Bible teachings and subjected the victims to multiple interrogations aiming to extract from them the identity of other participants and to force them to leave MECC. Another wave of arrests and interrogations took place shortly after a number of house churches observed the United Nations’ International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2019. The graph shows the resulting increase in persecution incidents in 2019 and early 2020.

There is a direct line of command responsibility leading from the police department of a province to the police organizations of districts and provincial towns/cities.

See below excerpts from Public Security Ministry’s official site,
http://mps.gov.vn/web/guest/english_detail/-/vcmsviewcontent/bZCI/2401/0/11801:

The organizational system of the People's Public Security Forces

1. The organizational system of the People's Public Security Forces is composed of:

a/ The Public Security Ministry;

b/ Police departments of provinces and centrally-run cities;

c/ Police organizations of rural districts, urban districts, provincial towns and provincially-run cities;

d/ Police organizations of communes, wards and townships.

2. Commune police organizations constitute a part-time armed force, playing the core role in "the entire population protects the Fatherland's security" movement and ensuring social security, order and safety at grassroots levels. They submit to the direct and comprehensive leadership of local Party Committees, the management and administration of commune People's Committees, and the professional direction and guidance of superior public security organizations.

The Law provides for the organization, operation, equipment, uniform, training, cultivation, regimes, and policies towards commune police organizations.

3. Basing oneself on the security and order requirements and within the ambit of his own tasks and powers, the Minister of Public Security shall decide on establishment of police stations and organizations as well as independent units to be disposed in necessary locations.

Appendix C – September 2019 story on television program of Security Branch Of Vietnamese Police

Communist Vietnam chose to portray its persecution of Central Highlands religious communities as fighting the secessionist movement which had died 27 years ago. When it was an active, armed insurgency from the 1960's until 1991 or so, it was known by the acronym FULRO, for the French name *Front Unifié De Lutte Des Races Opprimées* (United Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races). See <https://yesweekly.com/fighting-longer-than-the-usa-the-24-year-war-of-ykhiem-ayun/>

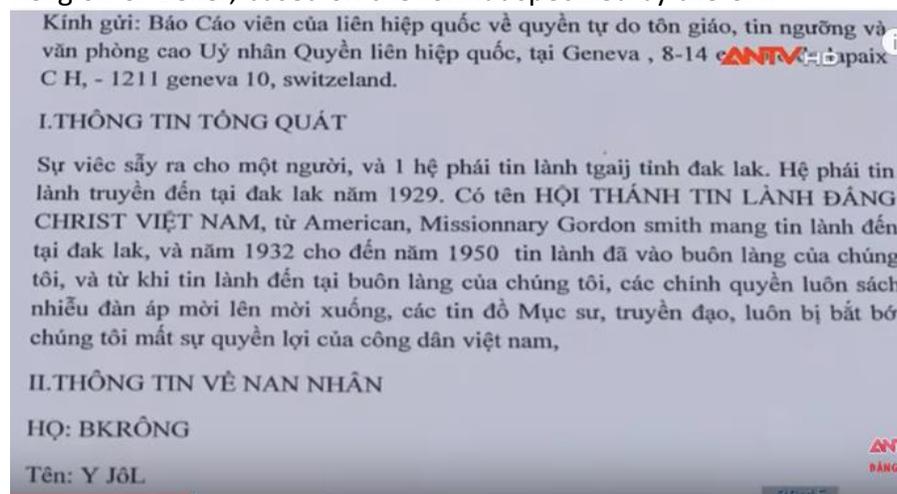
A number of males from minority ethnic communities formed FULRO to push back against what they saw as oppression by the Kinh race, the dominant Vietnamese ethnic group in the former country of South Vietnam and, after 1975, a unified, Communist Vietnam. Many of the FULRO fighters were not FULRO during the Vietnam War because they were highly capable anti-Communist fighters trained by U.S. Special Forces and very loyal to their trainers and comrades-in-arms. After the defeat of South Vietnam in 1975, a number of these trained fighters joined FULRO, belatedly, to fight against their new Communist rulers who were largely of the Kinh race.

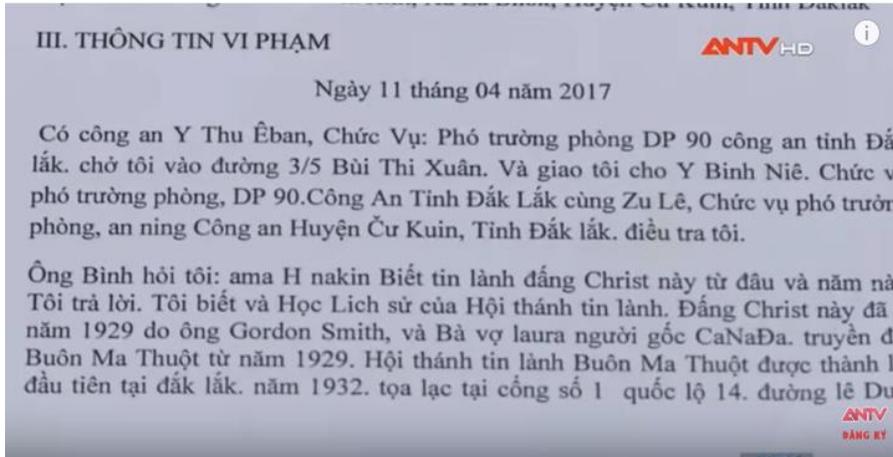
<https://youtu.be/fuAcdWOFZ0w>

(2019 video shown on **Security Police TV (ANTV)**, Vietnam)

Minute 0.24 Narrator's voice: **The MECC (MECC) has been destroyed.** In Dak Lak Province, under the Security Police Plan No. KH 96210, the security police arrested over 30 leaders of MECC from 2017 until early 2018,

Minute 2:47 The video clip shows a page from one of the reports on religious persecution prepared by the victims addressed to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, based on the format specified by the UN:





Sr. Lieut. Colonel Truong Hong Quy, commander, Internal Security Office, Dak Lak Province Police, said:

The “religious cover” trick is extremely dangerous, their ultimate goal is to establish their own



government and secede from our country...

As “evidence”, the video shows a sign erected by U.S. veterans who served as military advisors in Vietnam in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s, implying that the “foreign forces” mentioned in the video include U.S. entities.



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Counterparts Veterans Association (U.S.) memorialized their close association with minority ethnic irregulars whom the American advisers trained and who fought along side those advisers during the Vietnam War.

Minute 5:45 An American Baptist, Pastor Gene Lathan, arrived in July 2019 to pray with adherents from Central Highlands house churches, including the Degar Evangelical Church and the MECC. The ANTV narrator said that *Pastor Lathan had come to Vietnam to take the measure of the Evangelical Church of Christ's strength*, implying that he (and evangelical churches in the U.S.) was part of the "FULRO plot".to rebuild the Central Highlands churches as a stepping stone to secession. In fact, the security police launched a major pre-dawn operation over several days to arrest and interrogate several Montagnard Christians about their contact with Pastor Lathan.



Pastor Gene Lathan praying with Montagnard Christians in July 2019

Colonel Nguyen The Luc, deputy director, Dak Lak Province Police:

Minute 6:05 *FULRO aims to achieve independence for the Central Highlands ethnic minorities and needs to recruit followers using religion as a bait.* (BPSOS: Note that all the victims have been non-violent. The police state strictly forbids its citizens to own guns).



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ANTV displays the personal information of the current leaders of the MECC in the Central Highlands of Vietnam.



Appendix D -- List of incident reports submitted to UN mandate holders on gross violations of religious freedom committed by the police in Dak Lak Province

Summary of Cases

- a. Preacher A Dan (aka A Punh): A Preacher of the Southern Baptist Church in Kon Tum, on March 11, 2015 he led 11 church members from Kon Tum Province to a religious training program in Ho Chi Minh City. They just reached nearby Dak Lak Province when Dak Lak police stopped them, searched and confiscated their cash and Bibles. Police brought them back to Kon Tum Province and delivered them to police in that province. A Dân refused to sign a forced confession -- that they were trying to leave the country illegally. The other victims signed under pressure. Police released the others while detaining A Dân. The Kon Tum People's Court sentenced him to 24 months of imprisonment under the trumped up charge.
- b. Y Ku Knul: Born in 1969, he lived with his wife and 3 children in the Town of Buon Ma Thuot, Dak Lak Province. Before his suspicious death, the police ordered him to call his son, Y Phic H'dok, home from Cambodia. He was wanted by the police for speaking out against religious persecution by the government. On December 27, 2016, his wife cooked a meal and brought it to the plot of land where he worked. The undercover police officers trailed her as usual. When she arrived at his work location, he was not there. Two days later at approximately 12:30 noon, she found her husband who hung from a tree in a deserted place. His internal organs were damaged and his body display bruises caused by electric batons. The police conducted an autopsy and took the damaged body parts away. They did not give the family their report from examining the corpse. When his relatives brought him home, many plainclothes police officers came. They stood guard and did not allow people to come close to take pictures. The family was ordered by the police to bury him quietly. Fearing for his life, Y Phic H'dok fled to Thailand, where he was recognized a refugee by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.
- c. Pastor Y Noen Ayun and his younger brother Missionary Y Jon Ayun: On January 12, 2014, in the morning five police officers raided the homes in Ea Su Village, Ea Phe Commune, Krong Pac District, Dak Lak Province of Pastor Y Noen Ayun and his younger brother Missionary Y Jon Ayun when they were conducting a prayer service. The house church members who had been praying with them dispersed as the police officers took the two victims to their station for a week of torture. Police officers threatened them with prison terms and forced them to sign an agreement to recant their faith. The two had to sign it under duress because the torture caused too much pain. On August 10-11, 2013, police officers came to the two men's homes early in the morning and took them to their station where they tortured the two men for two days because they steadfastly refused to abandon their faith. On November 13, 2013, the police of Dak Lak Province came to their homes and transported them to the police station. There they were kept in separate rooms and subjected to torture for three straight days because they refused to renounce their faith.

- d. Pastor Ksor Sun: During the first 6 months of 2016, police officers from the PA88 Branch and officers from the district office and commune office have been suppressing freedom of religion of the Church of Christ in Hamlets Puan B and Tara, in Ea Phe Commune, Krong Pac District, Dakak Province. Police of Krong Pa District in Gia Lai Province have been suppressing adherents of the same Church in Chur Gam Hamlet, Chur Gam Commune, Krong Pa District, Gia Lai Province. Police interrogated and harassed church members in Ea Khit Village (in Ea Bhok Commune, Cu Kuin District, Dak Lak Province); Ea Yong Commune and Hoa Dong Commune of Krong Pac District, Dak Lak Province. Officers imposed travel restrictions on a church member. Authorities threatened and compelled adherents to recant their faith. Interrogators told victims that the State (central government) has not approved their Church. Police officers in Dak Lak Province interrogated Pastor Ksor Sun and forced him to recant his faith.
- e. Pastor Ksor Sun, Y Bech, A Xa, A Doan, and A Hluih: The police in the 3 Vietnamese provinces of Dak Lak, Kon Tum, and Gia Lai, continued to persecute, in a coordinated manner, members of the Evangelical Church of Christ in Ro Koi Commune in Kon Tum Province and the hamlets Jung and Tara in Dak Lak Province. Victims belong to ethnic minorities living in the Central Highlands. Persecution includes unreasonable interrogations focusing on religious activities and personal beliefs, followed by intimidation aimed at preventing victims' contacts with other Church adherents in Vietnam and other countries, or with international government/NGO personnel whose interests lie in human rights and religious freedom. Vietnamese government personnel used intimidation techniques such as threat of imprisonment, to force them to recant their faith and join another denomination that the government has approved. On Nov 16, 2016, they interrogated Y Bech (K'Ram Village), A Xa (Kluk Kloong Village), A Doan (K'Ram Village), and A Hluih (Kluk Kloong Village), all in Sa Thay District. On Nov 17, they interrogated Y Glen, Tara Hamlet resident (in Krong Pac District). On Nov 22, they interrogated Ksor Sun, Jung Hamlet resident (in Krong Pac District).
- f. Y Nguyet Buon Krong: On January 24, 2018, police officers working for the police organizations of Hoa Thang Commune, Town of Buon Ma Thuot, and Dak Lak Province interrogated Y Nguyet Buon Krong of KoMeo Hamlet, Hoa Thang Commune and ordered him to leave the Church of Christ.
- g. Y Than Buon Dap, Y Bhuar Buon Dap, Y Chieu Bkrông: On October 5, 2017 and subsequent days, Ea Bhok Commune police and Cư Kuin District police (Dak Lak Province) detained Y Than Buon Dap during 3 days and 2 nights and used mental and physical torture to force him to recant his Gospel Missionary (a.k.a. Good News Mission) Church denomination. This group of police officers kept Y Bhuar Buon Dap for an entire day on April 27, 2018 to threaten and force him to recant his church. On May 10, 2018, a number of police officers from this group interrogated and threatened Y Ciểu Bkrông to force him to leave his church.

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- h. Pastor Y Nuen Ayun: In April 2017, Dak Lak Province police interrogated and threatened Y Nuen Ayun with reprisals if he does not leave the Evangelical Church of Christ. On June 28, 2017, Krong Pak District police and Dak Lak Province police interrogated Y Nuen Ayun and again ordered him to leave the Evangelical Church of Christ.
- i. Y Quynh Buon Dap: On June 28, 2017, Krong Pak District police and Dak Lak Province police interrogated Y Quynh Buon Dap of Ea Yong A Hamlet, Ea Yong Commune, Krong Pak District and ordered him to leave the Evangelical Church of Christ.
- j. Y Min Ksor and Y Pum Byă: On April 10, 2018, Buon Ho Town police and Ea Drong Commune police (in Dak Lak Province) tortured to force Y Min Ksor and Y Pum Byă (both from Ea Drong Commune) to leave the Gospel Evangelical Missionary (a.k.a. Good News Mission) Church and join the Evangelical Church of Vietnam (Southern Region), a government-approved one. Y Pum Byă was sentenced in 2019 to 14 years and Ksor Y Min to 9 years in prison
- k. Y Khen Niê and Y Khit Buon Dap: On May 5, 2018, Ea Poc Commune police (in Buon Ho Town, Dak Lak Province) tortured Y Khen Niê at the commune's police station to force him to leave the Gospel Missionary (a.k.a. Good News Mission) Church and join the Evangelical Church of Vietnam (Southern Region). On May 7, 2018, Ea Poc Commune police and Cu Mgar District police (in Buon Ho Town) interrogated and forced Y Khit Buon Dap to leave the Gospel Missionary (a.k.a. Good News Mission) Church.
- l. Y Kươ Byă and Y Quynh Buon Dap: On April 18, 2018, the police of the Town of Buon Ma Thuot in Dak Lak Province ordered Y Kươ Byă of KơMLEo Hamlet, Hoa Thang Commune, Town of Buon Ma Thuot to stop his religious activities because the government disapproves of the Evangelical Church of Christ. On April 27, 2018, Dak Lak Province police and Krong Pak District police interrogated and ordered Y Quynh Buon Dap of Ea Yong A Hamlet, Ea Yong Commune, Krong Pak District to leave the Church of Christ.
- m. Y Klo Byă: On August 26, 2018, employees of the governments Klo Meo Village and Hoa Thang Commune, including police officers and civilian employees, entered the house of Y Nguyet Buon Krong who was hosting a group of 30 Church of Christ adherents who had come to pray and worship Jesus. The government group ordered all those present to leave the Church of Christ. On August 30, 2018, Dak Lak Province police interrogated Y Klo Byă of KơMLEo Village, Hoa Thang Commune, Town of Buon Ma Thuot, and ordered him to leave the Church of Christ.
- n. On December 25, 2018 a group of 50 or more government employees (from the governments of the commune, district, and province, including police officers) stopped 500 adherents who had come from several villages from celebrating Christmas and took pictures of the victims. The incident took place in Ea Khit Village, Ea Bhôk Commune, Cu Kuin District, Dak Lak Province.

- o. In September 2018, police interrogators threatened to impose a fine on a couple in Hoa Dong Commune, Krong Pac District (Y Glen Kbuor and H’Ing): “The Church of Christ is not approved and you must leave it to join either the Evangelical Church of Vietnam/(Southern Region or the Nam Phươg Baptist Church”. Four government officials came to another Church of Christ adherent’s house (Y Nguyệt Buôn Krông) in the Town of Buôn Ma Thuôt to inspect religious activities and stop a private worship session attended by 21 adults and 3 children. The government representatives forbade the group from engaging in any future group worship.
- p. In July 2015 the police destroyed crops grown by a Church of Christ family in Cu Bao Commune, Town of Buon Ho, Dak Lak Province. On April 27, 2016, 10-12 police officers came unannounced to the house of a relative of the family, Mrs. H’Kiem Krong, and immediately demolished it. They cut the corrugated metal roof into small pieces and took down all the boards used for the walls.
- q. Ma Seo Sung: On April 30, 2017, Hmong Protestant Ma Seo Sung took his nephew, Giang A Lang (born in 1996), by motorcycle to Ea So Commune, Ea Kar District, Dak Lak Province to buy medicine for treating some skin fungus disease. Out of suspicion that Ma Seo Sung and Giang A Lang were in search of a Christian pastor, the police of Ea So Commune stopped their motorcycle and falsely accused them of cocaine use. Both were taken to the police station. On May 4 2017, Captain Nguyen Tien Dung of Dak Lak Province police called Mr. Ma Khay To (Ma Seo Sung’s uncle) to notify that Ma Seo Sung and Giang A Lang were being detained. At noon on May 5, 2017, Captain Dung notified Mr. Ma Khay To that Ma Seo Sung had committed suicide by hanging himself in the detention center. The evidence provided by the police belies its claim and the family pursued justice with the help of human rights organizations. Threatened with reprisal by the police, Ma Seo Sung’s relatives had to flee to Thailand.
- r. In May 2019 police organizations within Daklak Province persecuted members of the Church of Dhiă Village which is a part of the registered Good News Mission Church. Although 60 families have been using their cropland and residential land for over 50 years, long before Communist Vietnam ruled South Vietnam beginning in 1975, the local Communist government refused to grant them land use right certificates when they applied for these under Communist regulations. The government forcibly seized the land (around 6 hectares) recently but did not really put it to any use. The victims reclaimed the land for residential and agricultural use. In May 2019 the government again used force to take the land once more after beating the people and arresting a male victim because they tried to stop the confiscation. A partial list of victims in Dhiă Village, Cư Ne Commune, Krông Buk District, Dak Lak Province: Y Aron Êban, DoB: April 4, 1985; H’Lisa Niê, DoB: July 3, 2000; Y Sac Mlô, DoB: June 12, 1976; Y Chang Kpa; DoB: 1992, Y Sêkiêl Niê, DoB: 1998; H’Nhên Blo, H’Buon Niê, DoB: 1980; Y Aron Êban, DoB: April 4, 1985; Y Nung Niê, DoB: 1995; Ksor H’La DoB: June 16, 1998; Y Nam Mlô, DoB: July 8, 1994; H’Hông Niê DoB: August 31, 1999

- s. The Police of Êa Bar Commune, Buôn Đôn District, and the Police Department of Dak Lak Province persecuted an adherent of the Evangelical Church of Christ in December 2019 and January 2020 through interrogation and confiscation of his phone and 5 calendars printed specially for the Church. Also, the Police of Êa Bhôk Commune, the Police of Cư Kuin District, and the Police Department of Dak Lak Province persecuted an evangelist and 3 adherents in January 2020 through interrogation and attempts at forced conversion. The victims included: Y Cuân Ađrông DoB: Sept 10, 1984; H'riêêt Hđrue DoB: 1978; H'Nữ Byă DoB: 1970; H'Ă Byă DoB: 1973
- t. The various police organizations within Daklak Province persecuted 4 adherents of the International Degar Church (aka Degar Evangelical Church) in December 2019 and January 2020. The police interrogated and, using the cyber security law and other laws, (a) threatened victims with imprisonment or death; (b) attempted to coerce them into leaving their unregistered Church by accusing them of being terrorists who were “building up an army to establish a Degar State with American support”. The victims included: Y Phen Byă DoB: 16/8/1982; Y Sĩ Êban DoB: 1980; H'Ban Êban DoB: 1982; Y Păm Bkrông DoB: 16/11/1981
- u. Police officers continue to maintain that the Evangelical Church of Christ was established by the U.S. government to undermine the Vietnamese Communist Party. The police of Êa Tam Commune, Krông Năng District (in Dak Lak Province) harassed Deacon Y Bhen Mlô DOB: December 4, 1976, and his 2 church members in November 2019 (Y Snak Mlô and Y Nêp Niê). They detained the deacon for 3 days after searching his house and confiscating 3 cell phones. The victims are of Ede ethnicity. The police of Êa Yông Commune, Krông Pac District (in Dak Lak Province) harassed Pastor Ksor Sun DOB: 1960 on 12/12/2019 to force him to leave his Church. He is of Jarai ethnicity.
- v. The government of Buôn Trấp Town and police forces of this town, of Krông Ana District, and of Dak Lak Province prevented the Good News Mission Church from building a prayer house in November 2019. The government does not allow adherents to build a prayer house and it is impossible to obtain a permit although the pastor's house is small and deteriorating, causing him and the adherents to build a separate prayer house. The police seized a cell phone from a victim. The victims included: Y Mek Bkrông DOB: 1971; Y Sôl Bkrông DOB: 1979; Y Kluc Bkrông DOB: 1967; Y Sai ÊNuôl DOB:2000; Y But Êban DOB: 1967; H'Bel Bkrông DOB: 1976; H'Sơn Bkrông DOB: 1969; H'Djum ÊNuôl DOB: 1997; H'Nun Byă DOB: 1978; H'Côm Byă, DOB: 1998; H'Joen Byă DOB: 2004
- w. The police of Dhiă Village, Cư Né Commune, Krông Buk District, Dak Lak Province interrogated Deacon Y Săc Mlô DOB: 12/06/1976, and adherent H'Blôn Niê DOB: 1980 on December 30, 2019. The chairman of Êa Drông Commune, deputy secretaries of Êa Drông Commune, and the police of Êa Drông Commune, Buôn Hồ Town, and Dak Lak Province persecuted 6 adherents of the Good News Mission Church in December 2019, including Y Grôn Niê DOB: 1964; Y Khen Niê DOB: 1977; Y Ju Hwing DOB: 1966.

- x. The police units of Ea Khit Village, Ea Bhok Commune, Cu Kuin District, and Daklak Province, have been oppressing the Degar Evangelical Church since 2001. This intense oppression forced adherents to join the registered Good News Mission Church in 2017. However, the local police kept on harassing Pastor Y Khen Bdap and his congregation, including forbidding group worship sessions and Christmas Eve service on December 24, 2018. The same police officers came to Y Khen Bdap's house on Christmas morning to harass him and forced him to sign a pledge to renounce his faith. On December 12, 60 police officers riding motorcycles already came to Y Khen Bdap's house to stop a group worship session.

- y. Y Khen Bdap, Y Choi, H'Tlun Bdap: In the morning of January 23, 2019, Police Officer Y Mil Byã came to give him an invitation letter to the police station. He also gave invitation letters to H'Tlun and Y Choi who had made video recordings of the previously described police raid of their worship session. At the police station, the interrogators accused them of following foreign groups whose aim is to undermine the government's national solidarity policy. They ordered the adherents to renounce their faith and stop gathering for worship, and threatened to arrest those who will not comply. On May 13, 2019, five police officers came in a police vehicle to Y Khen's house to take him to the police station of the district, without showing any invitation letter. At the station, Police Officer Hoàng Thanh Sơn questioned him to find out who had made video recordings of the police raids of December 24 and December 25, 2018 and then posted them on Facebook. Y Khen Bdap told them that he did not know. The interrogators claimed to know that the culprits were H'Tlun Bdap, Y Drak Êban, and H'Si Pra Bdap. They wanted to know who had reported past police harassment incidents to the international community and warned that seeking international intervention is wrong. They threatened to beat him unless he signed the confession about having provided information to foreigners (statement prepared by the interrogators). They ordered him to stop using Facebook and stop engaging in group worship sessions, otherwise they would make him sentenced to long imprisonment as he had been in the past. He had to sign the document because of the intimidation. They ordered him: do not report the persecution to the international community.

Appendix E – List of current religious prisoners of conscience among Montagnard Christians in Dak Lak Province

1. Y Drim Niê, b. 1972. Residence: Buon Tah Village, Ea Drong Commune, Cu Mgar District, Dak Lak province. Y Drin Niê is a Protestant missionary; he was arrested in December 2012 because he preached the gospel in his village. He was sentenced to 8 years in prison. He is currently imprisoned in Binh Duong Province.
2. Mr. Y Lao Mlô: b. 1987. Residence: Drao Hamlet, Dak Lak Province. A member of a Christian Church in Drao Hamlet that the local government has been suppressing, he protested against this policy. He was arrested on 07/15/2015, sentenced to 8 years in prison pursuant to Article 87, and is currently in Dak Trung Prison, M'Drak District, Dak Lak Province.
3. Mr. Y Ngun Knul: b. 1968. Residence: K'Rang Hamlet, Bang Commune, Krong Ana District, Dak Lak Province. An evangelical pastor who preached to people in his community, he was arrested on 04/29/2004, sentenced to 18 years in prison pursuant to Article 87, and is currently in Prison #6, Nghe An Province.
4. Mr. Y Yem Hwing: b. 1972. San A Hamlet, Ea Tul Commune, Cu Mgar District, Dak Lak Province. A chief deacon of a church in San A Hamlet, he has been very influential in his church and his ethnic community. The local government arrested him on 10/29/2012 to deprive the community of his leadership in the hope of eventually dissolving the Church. He is serving an 8-year prison sentence.