

中國:在大城市,基督信仰受到白領一族的青睐,佛教吸引中產階級,道教則流行在鄉間小鎮。另一方面,信奉伊斯蘭教的人數不斷增加,不但在貧困的少數民族中,也在全國億萬人中。

< Pray For China, http://www.prayforchina.com, 2/14/15>

歐洲:以色列總理內塔利雅胡回應最近一波暴力侵害歐洲的猶太人時,呼籲歐洲猶太人從不斷增長的反猶太主義和恐怖主義中離開,回到以色列。他說:「以色列是每一個猶太人的家。我想告訴所有歐洲和分佈全球的猶太人,以色列正張開雙臂等待著你。」不過歐洲國家領袖紛紛敦促境內猶太人拒絕內塔利雅胡的呼籲,不要大規模移居以色列。同時,法國猶太人墳場及丹麥猶太人會堂遭受死亡襲擊反而促成團結。

<Tom Hall, http://townhall.com, 2/16/15>

歐洲和中東:法國三天恐怖襲擊,造成16死22傷後,有 40國約350萬人在當地遊行抗議。目前中東和北非各國政 府都譴責諷刺雜誌《查理周刊》執意發表批評伊斯蘭先 知的漫畫,是不必要的挑釁。

<Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org, 1/21/15>

幾內亞:世界衛生組織估計,幾內亞去年有2,000人死於病毒。自2013年12月一個2歲的男孩死於依波拉病毒開始,迅速蔓延,在6個國家包括幾內亞、利比里亞、塞拉利昂、尼日利亞、馬里和美國奪去了9,000多條生命。疫情於去年12月底達到高峰,之後明顯下降,今年1月18日更看見最低的感染個案報告。因此宣教機構批准宣教士返回非洲。科學家迄今未能發現任何完全治愈依波拉的疫苗,但日本一種在試驗中的藥物很有效,並獲准分發到不同的疫區。

< Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org/, 2/14/15>

中東:基督徒被驅逐離開家園,到了鄰國,成為難民。恐懼和暴力迫使他們分佈在黎巴嫩、約旦、伊拉克北部和土耳其。幾個月來逃避伊斯蘭國,他們的生活完全改變了。在整個中東地區,你都可以找到一排排稠密的帳篷,鋪上了塑料和麻包袋,是上百萬伊拉克和敘利亞難民的庇護所。

<Sat-7, www.sat7usa.org, 1/30/15>

南蘇丹:聯合國兒童基金會表示:最近一個叛軍組織釋放了數以百計的兒童,並計劃在未來一個月內大規模釋放3,000名兒童兵。1月底首先釋放了280名兒童。聯合國兒童基金會估計,自從2013年12月戰爭爆發以來,多達12,000南蘇丹兒童被徵召入武裝組織。

< World Vision, www.worldvision.org,

美國:美國人口普查全面發現,親生父母都同住一家的美國核心家庭正在瓦解。黑人家庭受到的衝擊尤為嚴重,10個15-17歲的黑人青少年中只有不足2個與親生父母同住,是歷史新低。調查還顯示了令人沮喪的現象:傳統家庭逐漸解體,並擔憂這種趨勢會持續下去,除非「至死不渝」的婚姻盟約能夠復興。另一些歷史新低的數字:15-17歲的年青人只有46%長大時與親生父母同住,這數字在1950年曾高達63%。今日,黑人青少年中只有17%生活在他們的核心家庭中,遠低於1950年的38%;15-17歲白人孩子只有54%長大於原生家庭,低於1950年的67%。

<Marriage and Religion Research, http://marri.us, 2/12/15>

島克蘭:經過約17個小時談判後,終於達成停火協定。 由德法撮合的和議只是開始,各方都認為要繼續長期外 交之路。俄羅斯總統普京首先宣佈這協議,同時卻表示 該地區目前仍面臨許多問題。烏克蘭停火將准許援助和 福音活動。

< Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org, 2/13/13>

英國:2011年,穆斯林人口已從2001年的155萬增至271萬,超過了所有非基督教團體人數的總和。英國穆斯林協會發現,確認為穆斯林的孩子在過去10年中幾乎增長了一倍。英國的穆斯林有三分之一是15歲以下,而只有4%超過65歲。雖然數字有所上升,但只有不足二十分之一的英國人隨從伊斯蘭教。穆斯林的失業率較高,其中26%因為沒有資歷。而穆斯林學生也不太可能進入頂尖大學。近一半的穆斯林(46%)居住在英國最貧困的地區。也許最特別的是:雖然不到一半的穆斯林出生在英國,卻有73%的人稱他們唯一的國籍是英國。

<Christianity Today, www.christiantoday.com, 2/12/15>



China: In the cities of China yuppies are turning to Christianity. Buddhism attracts the middle class while Taoism has rebounded in small towns and the countryside. Islam is also on the rise, not only in troubled minority areas, but also among tens of millions of people elsewhere in China.

<Pray For China, http://www.prayforchina.com, 2/14/15>

Europe: In responding to the recent wave of violence against Jews in Europe Israel Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu called on Jews from Europe to walk away from growing anti-Semitism and terrorism and move to Israel. He said, "I would like to tell all European Jews and all Jews wherever they are: 'Israel is the home of every Jew. To the Jews of Europe and to the Jews of the world I say that Israel is waiting for you with open arms." However, European leaders rejected calls from Israel's leader for a mass migration of the continent's Jews to Israel, urging unity instead, despite desecrated Jewish graves in France and a deadly attack at a synagogue in Denmark.

<Tom Hall, http://townhall.com, 2/16/15>

Europe & Middle East: Forty nations of about 3.5 million people marched in France in protest after three days of terrorist killings resulting in 16 dead and 22 wounded. Satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo's decision to publish cartoons of Islam's prophet prompted criticism that was unnecessary provocative and has now been condemned by Middle East and North African governments.

<Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org, 1/21/15>

Guinea: World Health Organization estimates 2,000 people have died from Ebola in Guinea since the outbreak began last year when a 2-year-old boy died in December 2013. The viscous disease quickly spread and claimed about 9,000 lives in 6 different countries, including Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Mali, and the U.S. The disease is at its highest near the end of December but drops significantly in January 18 reporting its lowest cases. Because of the decline, mission agents received green light to return to Africa. Scientists so far have found no lasting cure for Ebola, but a Japanese trial drug had positive results and may be distributed in certain locations.

< Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org/, 2/14/15>

Middle East: Christians chased from their homes are now refugees in neighboring countries. Fear and violence drove them to such places as Lebanon, Jordan, northern Iraq and Turkey. After nearly months of running from ISIS, their lives are forever changed. Across the Middle East, you can find rows of tents, covered with plastic and burlap bags sheltering millions of Iraqi and Syrian refugees.

<Sat-7, www.sat7usa.org, 1/30/15>

South Sudan: Hundreds more child soldiers were recently released by a rebel group, said UNICEF, as part of a broader plan to free up to 3,000 children from its ranks in the coming month. An initial group of 280 children was released in late January. UNICEF estimates as many as 12,000 South Sudanese children have been recruited into armed groups since war broke out in December 2013.

< World Vision, www.worldvision.org,

USA: A comprehensive survey of U.S. Census data finds that the nuclear American family, where both biological parents are at home, is in meltdown, with blacks teens being hit especially hard with less than 2-in-10 15-17-year-olds living with mom and dad. The survey also shows a depressing historical roadmap of the breakup of traditional families, a trend the group fears will continue unless marriage "until death do us part" is revived. 46 % of teens 15-17 have grown up with the biological parents, an all-time low from a high of 63% in 1950. Just 17% of black teens live with their nuclear family, another all-time low and down from 38% in 1950. 54% of white kids aged 15-17 grew up with their biological family intact, a low point and down from 67% in 1950.

<Marriage and Religion Research, http://marri.us, 2/12/15>

Ukraine: It took about 17 hours, but a ceasefire agreement has been reached in Ukraine. The German/French-brokered deal is just the beginning of what all parties say is a long diplomatic road ahead. President Vladimir Putin was the first to announce the deal, but he also said there are still many issues facing the region. Ukraine ceasefire will allow aid and the Gospel to flow.

<Mission Network News, https://www.mnnonline.org, 2/13/15>

United Kingdom: The Muslim population has increased from 1.55 million in 2001 to 2.71 million in 2011 – making it larger than all other non-Christian groups put together. The Muslim Council of Britain has found that the number of children who identify as Muslims in the UK has almost doubled in a decade. A third of all Muslims in the UK are under 15, while just 4% are over 65. However, though the numbers have risen, fewer than one in 20 of the UK's overall population follow Islam. There is a higher rate of unemployment among the Muslim population in comparison to the overall population, while 26% have no qualifications. Additionally, Muslim students are less likely to attend top universities. Almost half of the Muslim population (46%) lives in the 10% most deprived parts of England. Perhaps most significantly, while fewer than 50% of Muslims were born in Britain, 73% say that their only national identity is British.

<Christianity Today, www.christiantoday.com, 2/12/15>