

中國:舉行了首次由國內牧師主導籌辦的關於培育 兒童及少年的「4/14論壇」,與會的100位牧師分 別來自20省超過28個城市及8個機構。參加這次活 動的20位年青領袖帶領敬拜,並提供不少意見,也 分享他們的信仰旅程。

<Transform World 2020, www.transform-world.net, 5/14/15>

中國:選擇基督教而非佛教和道教的人越來越多。1949年中共上台後,趕逐所有西方宣教士離開。哈佛大學著名的中國歷史家費正清宣稱極少中國人願意成為基督徒,因此認為宣教事工全然失敗。但2007年中國約有6,000萬基督徒。2011年北京人民大學對該校學生進行調查,發現高達61.5%表示對基督教「感興趣」。目前每星期有40個以上基督教教會成立(不包括地下教會)。「如果這種趨勢持續下去,再過十年,中國基督徒的數目將超過世界上任何一個國家。」

<*U.S. News, www.usnews, 5/14/15>*

伊拉克:近幾個月,伊拉克北部的亞述基督徒,也成為伊斯蘭國武裝分子屠殺和綁架的群眾之一。這報告令認識該地區歷史的人再感沮喪。事實上,今年是一個嚴峻的百年紀念。除了是亞美尼亞大屠殺一百週年,更是奧斯曼土耳其政府因為懷疑少數基督教族群偏向俄羅斯,而大舉殺害他們的百年紀念。所以亞述人稱1915年為「賽福」,意思是「劍年」。

<Christian Century, www.questia.com, 5//14/2015>

蘇丹:兩名來自南蘇丹的基督徒牧師被起訴,根據他們的律師說:他們因為涉嫌從事間諜活動被捕,下週開始聆訊,可能面臨死刑。蘇丹國家情報和安全局關押控告他們破壞憲法和從事間諜活動等罪名。支持者說他們逮捕等待審判,僅因為伊斯蘭激進喀土穆政府要杜絕基督教的最新努力。

<Fox News, www.foxnews.com, 5/26/15>

美國:一個女孩16歲時因放棄了伊斯蘭教成為基督徒,被穆斯林父母發現了,她離開俄亥俄州的家

出走,躲在「臉書」上認識的佛羅里達州基督徒家中,因為恐怕會被父親殺死。所謂對那些放棄伊斯蘭教的人「光榮殺生」,她說:「這不只是威脅,更是現實,是真實的。」如今她已經22歲,是一位大學生,她將那段不平凡的經歷寫成一本新書《藏身光中:我為甚麼不惜一切代價離開伊斯蘭教去跟隨耶穌》。

<CBN, www.cbn.com, 5/26/15>

伊斯蘭大學:在加州柏克萊成立了五年的Zaytuna 學院,今年3月獲得認證,意味著Zaytuna是正式承 認的高等學府,是美國第一間全面認證的伊斯蘭大 學。該校的學生有在美國或外國出生的,也有來自 巴基斯坦、阿拉伯、土耳其、非洲裔、拉美裔等背 景。目前所有的學生都是穆斯林,但該校收生並沒 有宗教信仰的要求。然而,Zaytuna(阿拉伯語的橄 欖樹)是目前美國獨一無二要求學生修習阿拉伯語的 高校,使能學習伊斯蘭經文,包括原文《古蘭經》 在內。

< Christian Century, www.questia.com, 5//14/2015>

世界宗教:全球基督徒的人數,在過去一個世紀增長了四倍,並且還在強勁地增長,預測從目前的21.7億將增加到2050年的29.2億。但全球的宗教分佈也在迅速變化,主要原因是世界各大宗教人口中的生育率和青年人口的差異,以及改變信仰的數。未來40年,基督徒仍是世界最大的宗教團體,但伊斯蘭將是增長最快的宗教。按目前的趨勢了2050年,穆斯林的人數幾乎等於全球基督徒何,數的總和。無神論者、不可知論者和其他不屬任何宗教的人,在全球總人數的比率中將會下降。全球佛教人口大致停留在2010年的數量,而印度教和猶太教的人口將超越今天。歐洲穆斯林將佔總人口的10%。印度人口將仍舊以印度教為主,但同時會超越印尼而成為穆斯林人口最多的國家。全球每10位基督徒,將有4位生活在非洲撒哈拉地區。

<Pew Research Center, www.pewforum.org, 04/02/2015



CHINA: Chinese pastors have taken the lead in organizing an event for 100 pastors from 28 cities and 20 provinces and 8 organizations who came together for the first Chinese 4/14 Forum. 20 youth leaders led the worship and participated in the event providing input and powerful testimonies of their own faith journey.

<Transform World 2020, www.transform-world.net, 5/14/15>

CHINA: Increasing numbers of people are choosing Christianity over Buddhism and Taoism. When the Communist Party came to power in 1949, all Western missionaries were kicked out of the country. Harvard's renowned Chinese historian John K. Fairbank declared that few Chinese people were likely to become Christians and therefore the missionaries' work had failed. But in 2007 there were about 60 million Christians in Communist China. In a 2011 survey of students at Beijing's Renmin University, a whopping 61.5 percent of the students said they were "interested" in Christianity. Now, it is noted, more than 40 new Christian churches (not including underground churches) are starting up every week. "If this trend were to hold for even another decade, there would be more Christians in China than any other nation in the world."

< U.S. News, www.usnews, 5/14/15>

IRAQ: The Assyrian Christians of northern Iraq are among the people who have been massacred and kidnapped by ISIS militants in recent months. Such accounts are depressingly familiar to anyone who knows the region's history. In fact, this year marks a grim centennial. Besides being the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, it's the centennial of the year that the Ottoman Turkish regime struck at other Christian minorities whom it suspected of being sympathetic to Russia. The Assyrians call 1915 Sayfo, the Year of the Sword.

<Christian Century, www.questia.com, 5//14/2015>

SUDAN: Two Christian pastors from South Sudan were arrested on charges of spying could face the death penalty when their trial begins next week, according to their attorneys. They are being held by Sudan's National Intelligence and Security Services on charges of undermining the constitution and espionage. Their supporters say their arrest and pending trial is just the latest effort by the militant Islamist government in Khartoum to stamp out Christianity.

<Fox News, www.foxnews.com, 5/26/15>

USA: When a girl was 16 years old, her Muslim parents found out she had renounced Islam and had become a Christian. That's when she ran away from home in Ohio and took refuge with Christians in Florida she had met on Facebook. She

feared that if she returned home, her father would try to kill her. "This is not just some threat; this is reality. This is truth," She said, according to the so-called honor killings for those who renounce Islam. Today, the 22-year-old college student tells her remarkable story in a new book, Hiding in the Light: Why I Risked Everything to Leave Islam and Follow Jesus.

<CBN, www.cbn.com, 5/26/15>

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY: Zaytuna College, a five-yearold institution in Berkeley, California, is now the first fully accredited Islamic university in America. It was recognized in March and the accreditation means that Zaytuna, is officially an institution of higher learning. Zaytuna's students are both U.S.-born and foreign-born and come from Pakistani, Arabic, Turkish, African-American, and Latino backgrounds. All Zaytuna's current students identify as Muslims, but there is no religious requirement for admission. However, Zaytunathe Arabic word for the olive tree—remains unique among American colleges and universities in that it requires students to learn Arabic so they can study Islamic texts, including the Qur'an, in their original forms.

<Christian Century, www.questia.com, 5//14/2015>

WORLD RELIGIOUS: Worldwide, the number of Christians has quadrupled in the past century and is still growing robustly – it is predicted to increase from the current 2.17 billion to 2.92 billion in 2050. Meanwhile the worldwide religiously profile is rapidly changing, driven primarily by differences in fertility rates and the size of youth populations among the world's major religions, as well as by people switching faiths. Over the next four decades, Christians will remain the largest religious group, but Islam will be the fastest growing religion. If current trends continue, by 2050 the number of Muslims will nearly equal the number of Christians around the world. Atheists, agnostics and other people who do not affiliate with any religion will make up a declining share of the world's total population. The global Buddhist population will be about the same size it was in 2010, while the Hindu and Jewish populations will be larger than they are today. In Europe, Muslims will make up 10% of the overall population. India will retain a Hindu majority but also will have the largest Muslim population of any country in the world, surpassing Indonesia. Four out of every 10 Christians in the world will live in sub-Saharan Africa.

> <Pew Research Center, www.pewforum.org, 04/02/2015>