

ERITREA

According to Christian Solidarity Worldwide's submission to the United Nations UPR process in 2014, between 2,500 and 3,000 Christians are detained indefinitely at any given time in Eritrea. Although some were initially released after pledging to renounce their faith, none have been formally charged or tried, and all are held pending similar denials of faith. Since Orthodox Patriarch Antonios were forcefully deposed in 2007, twenty-three Orthodox priests are known to be still detained. Jehovah's Witnesses, who were deprived of their citizenship after the ban of their movement in 1994, are also paying heavy tribute with over seventy long-standing prisoners.

Protestants

Mussie EYOB

Date and place of arrest: February 2011, Saudi Arabia

Charges: Proselytising in Saudia Arabia

First court decision: Unknown

Place of detention: Me'etr, North West Eritrea

Other information: Eyob was originally arrested in Saudi Arabia for proselytising but then was deported back to Eritrea, after which he was jailed.

Source:

http://www.releaseinternational.org/media/download_gallery/PP_Mussie_Eyob_April-2015.pdf

Mussie EZAZ

Date and place of arrest: September 2007, Adi Kaih

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Believed to be imprisoned at the maximum-security crime investigation unit, Wenjel Mermera, in Asmara.

Other information: Mussie is an evangelist and had previously worked with Youth for Christ after which he established his own ministry, the Kale Hiwot Church. Mussie is married and is the father of three children.

Source: http://www.releaseinternational.org/media/download_gallery/PoF-profile-Mussie-Ezaz-bw-03.pdf

Pastor Meron GEBRESELASIE

Date and place of arrest: 3rd June 2004, Asmara

Charges: He has never been charged with a crime or brought before a court.

Place of detention: Wongel Mermera

Other information: Unmarried

Dr. Kiflu GEBREMESKEL

Date and place of arrest: 23rd May 2004

Charges: He has never been charged with a crime or brought before a court.

Statement of the defendant: Senior pastor of Southwest Full Gospel Church

Other information: Dr Kiflu was a mathematics lecturer who was faculty head in the University of Asmara until 1999, when he became a full-time pastor. He has been held incommunicado ever since his arrest. His wife and four children have not been able to visit him.

Haile NAYZGI

Date and place of arrest: 23rd May 2004

Charges: Unknown.

Statement of the defendant: Leader of Eritrea's Full Gospel Church

Place of detention: Asmara's central prison

Other information: Haile Nayzgi has been moved to various locations since his arrest.

Twen (full name unknown)

Date and place of arrest: 2005, Asmara

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Me'etre Prison

Other information: Twen was arrested in the Eritrean capital, Asmara, in 2004 but was released after her father persuaded her to sign a paper saying she would not continue to meet with other Christians, share her faith or engage in Christian activities. In 2005, she was re-arrested after she was found participating in an evening prayer meeting in an underground church. Following her arrest, Twen was sent to Mai Sirwa Prison. In 2006, she was joined by a large group of detainees who had been arrested at a Christian wedding celebration in Asmara.

Source: http://www.releaseinternational.org/media/download_gallery/PoF-profile-Twen-bw-02.pdf

Pastor Kidane WELDOU

Date and place of arrest: 18th March 2005

Charges: Unknown.

Statement of the defendant: He is Pastor of Asmara Full Gospel Church.

Place of detention: Asmara's central prison

Orthodox

Patriarch Abune ANTONIOS

Date of birth: 12th July 1927

Statement of the defendant: He protested against the interference of the Eritrean Department of Religious Affairs in his church's affairs.

Charges: He refused to excommunicate 3,000 members of an Orthodox Sunday School movement and ask for the release of human rights activists. He was charged with treason.

Court decision: He was sentenced to house arrest in 2006.

Place of detention: Asmara

Other information: He has been prevented from communicating with the outside world and despite deteriorating health he was reportedly denied medical care. One of his faithful has managed to visit him this year and to take a picture of him.

Rev. Gebremedhin GEBREGIORIS

Date and place of arrest: November 2004

Charges: He was arrested for allegedly being involved in the renewal movement within the Orthodox Church.

Other information: Expert theologian

Dr. Futsum GEBRENEGUS

Date and place of arrest: November 2004

Charges: He was arrested for allegedly being involved in the renewal movement within the Orthodox Church.

Other information: He is a psychiatrist.

Dr. Tekleab MENGHISTEAB

Date and place of arrest: November 2004

Charges: He was arrested for allegedly being involved in the renewal movement within the Orthodox Church.

Other information: He is married and has four children.

Rev. Ogbamichael TEKLEHAIMANOT

Date and place of Arrest: 2012

Charges: Participation in Orthodox rituals (presided over an Orthodox wedding ceremony on 9th January 2005)

Place of detention: Barentu

Other information: Originally arrested in 2005, he was subjected to ten months hard labour and solitary confinement before serving a further six years in Barentu, after which he was released. He was arrested six months later after being called by a monitored Orthodox member.

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2016/04/4407264/>.

Jehovah's Witnesses

55 Jehovah's Witnesses

According to the last available information (April 2016), fifty-four Jehovah's Witnesses (forty-five men and nine women) are imprisoned in harsh conditions. They are held in detention for C.O., religious meetings, religious activity or for undisclosed reasons.

C.O.= Conscientious Objection

UNK= Unknown

Name	Age	Gender	Location	Date Arrested	Charges
Eyassu, Paulos	43	Male	Sawa Camp	24 /9/94	C.O.
Mogos, Isaac	41	Male	Sawa Camp	24/9/94	C.O.
Teklemariam, Negede	40	Male	Sawa Camp	24/9/94	C.O.
Abraha, Aron	42	Male	Sawa Camp	9/5/01	C.O.
Fessehaye, Mussie	44	Male	Sawa Camp	6/03	C.O.
Tsegezab, Ambakom	41	Male	Sawa Camp	2/04	C.O.
Fessehaye, Bemnet	44	Male	Sawa Camp	2/05	C.O.
Ghebru, Henok	32	Male	Sawa Camp	2/05	C.O.
Kiros, Worede	59	Male	Sawa Camp	4/5/05	Religious activity
Yonas, Yonathan	30	Male	Sawa Camp	12/11/05	Religious activity
Fessehaye, Kibreab	38	Male	Sawa Camp	27/12/05	C.O.

Oqbagabir, Bereket Abraha	46	Male	Sawa Camp	1/1/06	C.O.
Fessehaye, Yosief	27	Male	Sawa Camp	07	C.O.
Gebreemeskel, Mogos	68	Male	Adi-Abieto	3/7/08	UNK
Abraha, Bereket	67	Male	Meitir Camp	8/7/08	UNK
Ashgedom, Ermias	25	Male	Meitir Camp	11/7/08	UNK
Mekonen, Habtemichael	74	Male	Meitir Camp	17/7/08	UNK
Tesfamariam, Tareke	64	Male	Meitir Camp	4/8/08	UNK
Aradom, Goitom	72	Male	Meitir Camp	8/8/08	UNK
Tesfamariam, Habtemichael	67	Male	Meitir Camp	8/8/08	UNK
Habtezion, Tewoldemedhin	57	Male	Meitir Camp	9/8/08	UNK
Beyene, Teferi	73	Male	Meitir Camp	23/9/08	UNK
Abraham, Beyene	63	Male	Karen Police Station	23/10/08	UNK
Haile, Asfaha	80	Male	Meitir Camp	2/12/08	UNK
Leghesse, Tsehaye	75	Male	Karen Police Station	23/12/08	UNK
Tesfazghi, Tsegezeab	68	Male	Meitir Camp	23/12/08	UNK
Tecele, Yoab	63	Male	Meitir Camp	23/4/09	Rearrested
Tsegezab, Yoel	40	Male	Meitir Camp	26/8/08	C.O.
Hagos, Nehemiah	30	Male	Meitir Camp	26/8/08	C.O.
Ghirmay, Samuel	33	Male	Meitir Camp	3/09	C.O.
Gebrehiwot, Teklu	40	Male	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Afeworki, Isaias	30	Male	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Milen, Isaac	27	Female	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting
Seid, Faiza	30	Female	Meitir Camp	28/6/09	Religious meeting

Gebremichael, Tesfazion	72	Male	5th Police Station	20/7/11	UNK
Woldemichael, Hagos	62	Male	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Preaching at a funeral
Ghebremariam, Araia	60	Male	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Preaching at a funeral
Berhe, Tsegabirhan	52	Male	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Preaching at a funeral
Meharizghi, Daniel	38	Male	Meitir Camp	21/4/12	Preaching at a funeral
Tesfamariam, Yoseph	51	Male	Around Keren	5/12	C.O.
Berhane, Gebru	65	Male	2nd Police Station	14/4/14	Religious meeting
Gebrehiwot, Tekle	59	Male	2nd Police Station	14/4/14	Religious meeting
Tesfagabir, Thomas	33	Male	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Estifanos, Mordochai	21	Male	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Tewolde, Mehari		Male	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Gashazghi, Michael	23	Male	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Hidru, Liya		Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Shiwaseged, Wintana	26	Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Taddesse, Mikaal	24	Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Woldai, Emnet	36	Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Ghebrehiwot, Salem	20	Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Berhane, Senait		Female	5th Police Station	27/4/14	Religious meeting
Habteyesus, Bereket	23	Male	2nd Police Station	26/5/14	C.O.
Kahsai, Melaku		Male	2nd Police Station	UNK	UNK
Habtemariam, Meraf Seyum	53	Female	1st Police Station	25/10/15	Preaching