Prisoners for Peace '13

Armenia

Armenia continues to imprison conscientious objectors who refuse to perform the substitute service – although the government has promised progress. The below are all Jehovah's Witness conscientious objectors.

Ashot Voskanyan (2 Feb '11 – 1 Feb '14)

Ashot Voskanyan

Write to Erebuni Penal Institutions, Nubarashen, Yerevan, Armenia

Artur Adyan (7 Jul – 6 Jan)

Artur Adyan

Vahagn Margaryan (7 Jul '11 – 6 Jan '14)

Vahagn Margaryan

Garegin Avetisyan (19 Jul ‘11 – 18 Jan '13)

Garegin Avetisyan

Harutyun Khachatryan (27 Jul -)

Harutyun Khachatryan

Maksim Khudyayan (6 Aug '13 – 6 Feb '15)

Maksim Khudyayan

Gevorg Sahakyan (23 Aug '12 - 23 Aug '14)

Gevorg Sahakyan

Anania Grigoryan (15 Nov '12 - 15 Nov '14)

Anania Grigoryan

Artsrun Khachatryan (26 Nov '12 - 26 May '15)

Artsrun Khachatryan

For all, write to Nubarashen Prison, Yerevan, Armenia

Azerbaijan

Karen Harutyunyan (30 Dec '11 - 30 Jun '14)

Karen Harutyunyan

Address not available

China

Liu Yuandong (23 Feb '13 -)

Liu Yuandong

Liu is in administrative detention after taking part in a protest against North Korea's nuclear tests.

Write to Tianhe District Detention Centre, Guangzhou, China.

Eritrea

Eritrea continues to imprison conscientious objectors. WRI has no recent information on the situation of the conscientious objectors listed below, who have – to our knowledge – not been charged. The below are all Jehovah's Witness, imprisoned for conscientious objection to military service.

Paulos Eyassu (24 Sep 1994 —)

Paulos Eyassu

Negede Teklemariam (24 Sep 1994 —)

Negede Teklemariam

Isaac Mogos (24 Sep 1994 —)

Isaac Mogos

Aron Abraha (9 May '01 —)

Aron Abraha

Mussie Fessehay (1 Jun '03 —)

Mussie Fessehay

Ambakom Tsegezab (1 Feb '04 —)

Ambakom Tsegezab

Bemnet Fessehay (1 Feb '05 —)

Bemnet Fessehay

Henok Ghebru (1 Feb '05 —)

Henok Ghebru

Kibreab Fessehay (27 Dec '05 —)

Kibreab Fessehay

Bereket Abraha Oqbabagir (1 Jan '06 —)

Bereket Abraha Oqbabagir

Amanuel Abraham (1 Jan '07 —)

Amanuel Abraham

Yosief Fessehay (1 Jan '07 —)

Yosief Fessehay

Yoel Tsegezab (26 Aug '08 -)

Yoel Tsegezab

Write to Sawa Camp, Sawa, Eritrea

Yoel Tsegezab

Nehemiah Hagos (26 Aug '08 —)

Nehemiah Hagos

Samuel Ghirmay (1 Mar '09 —)

Samuel Ghirmay

Write to Meitir Camp, Meitir, Eritrea

India

Irom Sharmila Chanu

6 Nov '00 —

Irom Sharmila Chanu

On 2 November, '00 Irom Sharmila Chanu, a Manipuri poet decided to go on a hunger strike after the Indian Army massacred ten civilians in Malom, Manipur. On 6 November '00 she was arrested by the police and charged with attempt to commit suicide under section 307 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 21 November '00 a plastic tube was inserted into her nose and liquid nutrient was inserted into her body. She is being force-fed and has been surviving on this liquid diet and in solitary confinement as a high security prisoner for more than ten years. She is routinely released every year only to be re-arrested again.

Address not available

Korea, South

These nonviolent activists were charged in relation to actions on Jeju Island, where a US naval base is being built.

Yang Yoon-Mo (#301) (1 Feb '13 – 1 Aug '14)

Yang Yoon-Mo

Song Gang ho (#409) (1 Jul '13 - )

Song Gang ho

Park do hyeon (#535) (1 Jul '13 -)

Park do hyeon

Kim Eun hye (#12) (8 Nov '13 – 6 Jul '14)

Kim Eun hye

Kang bu eon (#582) (8 Nov '13 – 6 May '14)

Kang bu eon

For the most up to date Prisoners for Peace list go to: http://wri-irg.org/inprison

Support our future

For more than 50 years, War Resisters' International has publicised the names and stories of prisoners for peace. Help us keep up the tradition. Send in a special PIP donation to WRI to help fund next year's research.

Send contributions to: War Resisters’ International, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX, Britain (email pfp@wri-irg.org).

Receive regular news

You can sign up for our CO Alerts, which will update you with conscientious objector imprisonments, and allow you to send protest emails, at http://lists.wri-irg.org/sympa/info/co-alert

For updates on the status of conscientious objection, counter-recruitment work and conscription around the world, subscribe to our CO Update – the bimonthly newsletter of the Right to Refuse to Kill programme, at http://lists.wri-irg.org/sympa/info/co-update
For all write to Jeju Prison, 161 Ora-2 dong, Jeju City, Jeju Special Self-Governing Island, 690-162, South Korea

Kim moo seok (#805) (13 Aug ‘13 – 12 Feb ‘15)
Conscientious objector. All Cos in Korea face 18 months imprisonment, with no opportunity for substitute service.
Write to 867, Geum-ro, Guro-gu, Seoul, 152-150, South Korea

Turkey

Ismail Yıldız ( Dec ‘11 - )
Declared his conscientious objection while in prison, on 27 February ‘12.
Write to Yüksek Güvenlikli Kapalı Ceza ve İnfaz Kurumu, A7' Köşğu, İzmit - Kocaeli

Ali Fikri Işık (27 Feb ‘13 — 14 Mar ‘14)
Conscientious objector.
Write to Sukru Pasa Kislasi Askeri Cezevi, Edirne, Turkey

Turkmenistan

The below are all Jehovah’s Witness conscientious objectors.

Zafar Abdullah (6 Mar ‘12 — 6 Mar ‘14)
Navruz Nasyraliev (1 May ‘12 — 30 Apr ‘14)
Dowran Matyakubov (24 Dec ‘12 — 24 Dec ‘14)
Yadgarbek Sharipov (25 Dec ‘12 — 25 Dec ‘13)
Matkarim Aminov (8 Jan ‘13 — 8 Jan ‘15)
Arslan Dovletov (9 Jan ‘13 — 9 Jul ‘14)
Atamurat Suvkhanov (3 Apr ‘13 — 12 Mar ‘14)
Amiran Tolkachev (10 Jul ‘13 — 9 Jan ‘15)

For all write to Seydi Labour Camp, Turkmenistan, 74622 Lebap vilayet, Seydi, uchr. LB-K/12

United States of America

Rafil Dhafr (11921-052) (26 Apr ‘00—26 Apr ‘22)

Write to FCI Terre Haute, POB 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA
22 years for convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, February ’05

Chelsea (formerly Bradley) Manning (15 May ‘10 - 1 Aug ’48)
35 years imprisonment for espionage and theft, espionage and other charges.
Write to PVT Bradley E Manning, 89289, 1300 N Warehouse Rd, Ft Leavenworth KS 66027-2304, USA

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. (KN 9758) (1 Aug ’11 — 31 Aug ’18)
Sentenced for third trespass at military recruiting office in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Serving one to seven years - 31/08/18 is the last release date.
Write to SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612, USA

Brian Church (‘12-0519002)
Jared Chase (‘12-0519003) (18 May ‘12)
Brent Betterly (‘12-0519001) (18 May ‘12)
Mark Neweem (‘12-05023)

Sending cards and letters
- Send your card in an envelope;
- Include a return name and address on the envelope;
- Be chatty and creative: send photos from your life or drawings;
- Let the prisoners know what you are doing to stop war and war preparations;
- Don’t write anything that might get the prisoner into trouble;
- Think about the sort of thing you’d like to receive if you were in prison;
- Try not to begin your correspondence with “You are so brave, I could never do what you have done”;
- Remember that the prisoner may not be able to reply;

All jailed pending charges related to protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May 16-17 ‘12
For all four write to P.O. Box 089002, Chicago, IL 60608, USA.

Justin Colby (22 Mar ’13 — 22 Dec ’13)
War resister. Sentenced to nine months imprisonment for desertion in between deployments to Iraq.
Write to COLBY, Justin, 1450 Alder Rd., Box 339536, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA 98433-9536

Kimberly Rivera (29 Apr ‘13 — 28 Feb ‘14)
Conscientious objector – fled to Canada in between deployments to Iraq.
Sentenced to 10 months imprisonment for desertion.
Write to Kim River c/o All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 730 North Tejon Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903, USA

Gregory Boertje-Obed (5 Aug ’13 —)
Megan Rice (5 Aug ’13 —)
Michael Walli (92108-') (5 Aug ’13 —)
For all three write to Irwin County Detention Center, 132 Cotton Drive, Ocilla, GA 31774

Gerald Ebner (2 Sep ‘13 — 1 Mar ‘14)
Imprisoned for trespass at nuclear command centre at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, Nebraska during a December 28, ‘12 in a Feast of the Holy Innocents witness action.
Write to Satellite Camp, POB 14525, Lexington, KY 40512

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. (11-3659) (1 Aug)
Sentenced for third trespass at nuclear command centre at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, Nebraska during a December 28, ‘12 in a Feast of the Holy Innocents witness action.
Write to SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612, USA

For all three write to FCI Terre Haute, POB 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA
22 years for convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, February ’05

Brian Church (‘12-0519002)
Jared Chase (‘12-0519003) (18 May ‘12)
Brent Betterly (‘12-0519001) (18 May ‘12)
Mark Neweem (‘12-05023)

Sending cards and letters
- Send your card in an envelope;
- Include a return name and address on the envelope;
- Be chatty and creative: send photos from your life or drawings;
- Let the prisoners know what you are doing to stop war and war preparations;
- Don’t write anything that might get the prisoner into trouble;
- Think about the sort of thing you’d like to receive if you were in prison;
- Try not to begin your correspondence with “You are so brave, I could never do what you have done”;
- Remember that the prisoner may not be able to reply;