Excerpt from ACAT bulletin Dec 2026 – Feb 2027

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS CAMPAIGN

Regimes are increasingly restricting communication with prisoners through monitoring, heavy censorship, disregarding messages not in the native language, or simply by not delivering them at all. Often the only way of sending a greeting is via a legal representative or an NGO with local contacts on the ground. Much more effective, especially in such circumstances, is to send an appeal to the detaining government and its diplomatic representatives in the UK. This places more pressure on authorities and is less likely to result in harm to the prisoner.

Where possible, however, a simple (picture) card or greeting to a prisoner is most welcome. Say you are thinking of him/her and/or urge them not to lose hope. You can include your name and address if you wish *but do not mention ACAT or include a religious greeting or motif (even a Christmas tree!) if so advised*, since communication from a foreign organisation can endanger the prisoner. While some previously featured individuals have been released, others remain in prison. For them or their families it is heartening to receive regular messages of encouragement. As usual we include a couple of human rights groups. ***Do not feel obliged to respond to every appeal case***. Postage overseas is expensive: it now costs £3.60 to airmail a standard letter weighing up to 100g.

GROUPS



John Dayal is one of India's most prominent voices on human rights, notably for religious minorities, and a member of several governmental bodies, including the national Integration Council. The former president of the **All-India Catholic Union**, he is co-founder and secretary general of the **All-India Christian Council**.

Send a message (religious or non-religious, you can mention ACAT) to:

Dr John Dayal
505 Link Apartments
18 I.P. Extension
Delhi – 110092, India
Email: john.dayal@gmail.com / johndayal@vsnl.com

Asia National Commission for Justice and Peace Pakistan (NCJP) is a partner of the ecumenical group Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), with offices throughout Pakistan. Please pray for the safety and security of the staff, especially those who travel to rural areas to conduct workshops and training. Your message of encouragement will be sent from Lahore to offices in Karachi, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Multan, Hyderabad and Quetta. **Write to:**

Catholic (National) Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP)
E-64/A, Street No. 8
Officers' Colony
Walton Road
Lahore Cantonment (Cantt.)
Lahore, Punjab
Pakistan
Email: ncjpihra@gmail.com
Website: www.ncjp-pk.org

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Send a greeting (it can be religious) to Shagufta Kiran, Pakistan.



Shagufta Kiran, a Pakistani Christian nurse, was arrested in 2021 and sentenced to death on 18 September 2024 for blasphemy, following a complaint filed by an individual close to extremist movements. She has been held in solitary confinement since her arrest and is still awaiting the outcome of her appeal, despite the steps taken by her lawyer to obtain her release. Since she is held in a maximum-security prison, your letter will be opened and read by prison censors. Do not mention politics, criticism of the state or specific case elements. To personalise your message, you can share scripture readings, Christian greetings, and assurances of prayer to comfort her. Greetings can be along the lines of: Dear Sister in Christ, Grace and peace to you, or May God bless you. Sharing comforting verses from the Bible, such as the Psalms, will give her strength, as will telling her that you, your family, or your church, or ACAT are supporting her.

Send a greeting to:
Shagufta Kiran
Central Jail Rawalpindi (Adiala Jail)
Adyala Road
Rawalpindi, Punjab 46606
Pakistan

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Send a (religious or non-religious) greeting to Kenia Hernández, Mexico.



Kenia Hernández serves as the coordinator of the Zapata Vive Libertarian Collective and co-founded the National Movement for the Freedom of Political Prisoners in Mexico. Kenia has been threatened with death by armed groups and was forced to leave her home in Guerrero in 2019. In October 2020 she was arrested by about 20 police officers and faced fabricated charges aimed at halting her land rights work on behalf of indigenous people.

While federal cases against her were closed in mid-2026, she remains incarcerated, fighting local convictions that total nearly 22 years. Because her direct communications with the outside world from prison are severely restricted, the most effective way to send her a letter is through the activist networks campaigning for her release.

Send your letter directly to insumisas.libertad@gmail.com. This is an email inbox which serves as the digital hub for the international solidarity campaign organised by the Support Committee for Kenia Hernández's Freedom. **Insumisas** in Spanish means rebellious, defiant or non-submissive women —specifically those who refuse to submit to authority or unjust rules. See also: https://insumisas.com/

Your message will go directly to a committee of activists managing Kenia's defence and public outreach. They collect letters and can bypass prison restrictions. Because Kenia is held in a high-security facility with severely restricted communication, the committee acts as an authorised intermediary to print, convey, or read these messages to her.

Send a message to: Victoire Ingabire, Rwanda.



Victoire Ingabire, president of the unrecognised opposition party DALFA-Umurinzi, was arrested at her home in Kigali on 19 June 2025 by government agents. She immediately appeared as a witness in the trial of eight activists of her party and a journalist, arrested in 2021, who had participated in online training on nonviolent mobilisation methods. Ingabire was accused of "creating a criminal group" and "preparing acts to provoke unrest among the population". She was arrested just as a 15-year prison sentence, handed down in 2013, was due to end in October 2025, although a presidential pardon in 2018 had freed her under surveillance. Her latest arrest was designed to prevent her return to the political scene.

Victoire Ingabire had returned to Rwanda in January 2010 from a 16-year exile in the Netherlands, where she was active in Rwandan opposition politics. As leader of the opposition party FDU-Inkingi, she intended to stand in Rwanda's 2010 presidential election. The authorities accused her of links to the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), without any court ever establishing such links. Her persecution is part of a broader context of restricted political space in Rwanda.

The most reliable way to contact her is via her political party (asking them to forward your greeting) or personal website. You can mention ACAT.

Write to: DALFA-UMU-RINZI (Development and Liberty for All)
22 KG 601 St, Kigali, Rwanda
Website: https://dalfa.org/en/contact-us/
Victoire Ingabire's public website is:
www.victoireingabire.com/contact
Email: umuhozavictoire30@gmail.com

Send a message (religious and you can mention ACAT) to the Rigal Family, Cuba.



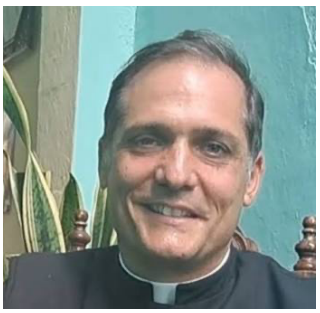
Husband and wife Pastors, Ramón Rigal Rodríguez and his wife Adya Expósito Leyva, who lead an unregistered Church of God congregation in Guantánamo, Cuba, were arrested and imprisoned for 2 years/18 months for homeschooling their children, Ruth and Joel, after they were severely bullied because of their religious beliefs. The Cuban regime considers state-run schooling the only legal option for education, arguing that alternatives have a "capitalist foundation". State attendance is mandated to instil socialist values and atheism. The parents were released from prison in 2020 and the children forced to return to the school, where they continue to be singled out and ridiculed. [Picture: Evangelico Digital]

Send a message (religious in general terms but do not mention ACAT).

La Familia Rigal
1075 Luz Caballero entre Donato
Mármol y Bernabe Varona
Municipio de Guantánamo
Provincia de Guantánamo
Postal Code: 95100
Cuba

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Send a message to Father Castor Álvarez Deveza, Cuba.



RC priest Father Castor was severely beaten and detained during nationwide protests in July 2021 after he tried to defend a young demonstrator who was being attacked by police. Although criminal charges were dropped State Security has frequently targeted his parish, threatening churchgoers and warning them to stop attending his church. Some have been intimidated in an attempt to turn them into informants. In January 2026 Father Castor and fellow priest Father Alberto Reyes were summoned during a retreat and interrogated for several hours by Cuban State Security.

Send a message to (it can be religious but do not mention ACAT) to:

Father Castor Álvarez
Deveza Calle Padre
Valencia #269 esq.
Bembeta y Damas
Camaguey Cp 70100
Cuba

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Send a message to the wife of Pastor Raymond Koh, Malaysia.



Pastor Raymond Koh was abducted from a street in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia in broad daylight, in February 2017. He has not been seen or heard from since that day nine years ago. His wife Susanna and their children are still seeking answers and fighting a long legal battle for damages and the reopening of police investigations. [Picture: BBC]

Send a message (it can be religious and you can mention ACAT) to:

Susanna Koh
A304 Prima 16 Chapter 1 Jalan 16/18
Petaling Jaya, 46350 Malaysia
Email: liewsusanna@yahoo.com

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Send a message to Mzia Amaghlobeli, Georgia.



Mzia Amaghlobeli, a prominent Georgian journalist, remains imprisoned following her arrest in January 2025 during peaceful protests in Batumi. Sentenced to two years, she was denied early release in April 2026 on the grounds she had not expressed remorse. There are urgent concerns over her detention conditions since she faces significant health risks—including potential vision loss—due to inadequate access to medical care while detained.

Send a message (it can be religious but do not mention ACAT) to:
Mzia Amaghlobeli
Women's Colony No. 5 (Rustavi)
Rustavi, Georgia◆◆◆◆◆