

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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**We help orphans and elderly Christians (many in their 80s, even 90s) who had been imprisoned for their faith in present or former communist countries.**

**At this critical moment, we help also Christian refugees from Ukraine!**

**June 2022**



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbrand was imprisoned for nearly three years, also for her Christian faith, in some of the same communist prisons.

**Announcement:**  
Free copies of the paperback books written by Pastor Richard Wurmbrand:  
"Reaching Towards the Heights,"  
"Tortured For Christ" and  
"Was Karl Marx a Satanist?"  
may be requested using the order form at the <https://helpforrefugees.com> internet site.

"Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou ME?" (Acts 9:4)

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand

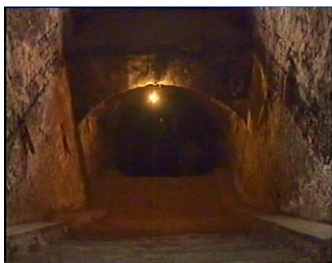
**HOW TO SUBMIT TO GOD?**

One of the most interesting descriptions of the torture imposed by the communist police ("POSEV," Publishing House) is the use of the word "**OBJECT**" for the man assigned to be tortured. You read: "The agent AGDGOMELASHVILI beat bloodily the "**OBJECT**" ISKANDERASHVILI... Agent USPULIAN beat the "**OBJECT**" KUHIANIDZE . . . There were beatings in all cells, and the jail was full of the screams and cries of the "**OBJECTS**."

"**OBJECT**" - this is how prisoners, among them our Christian brethren, are designated by the Communist police. It is the exact fulfillment of LENIN'S thoughts. He had said: "You cannot fry eggs without breaking the shells. You cannot cut wood without making chips fly. So, you cannot make revolution without killing men." (GORKY, Memories of LENIN.) Lenin did not know the difference between egg shells, wood and the sufferings of a man. To him his adversaries were "**OBJECTS**." A Russian Orthodox priest driven to despair described his suffering in a communist concentration camp: "...There is no martyrdom in the camps, at least not the martyrdom suffered by the great saints of our church. Here there is only (slave) work for the Bolshevik system in which man is gradually consumed like a candle which burns until it is extinguished. By

martyrdom, the man of faith can conquer Satan, and if his sacrifice is pleasant to God, he will enter into the ranks of saints. But by labor, Satan can conquer the man of faith, enslave him, make use of him, exploit him to the bitter end for his own satanic aims. This knowledge is the most terrible temptation that Satan has so far set before me. Pray for me that this satanic despair will leave me." (B. ROEDER, "KATORGA," Heinemann Publishing House) Whoever wishes to be objective in human affairs, in conflicts between nations, races, parties, denominations, first of all degrades men into becoming cold, inanimate **OBJECTS** of research and exploitation. Suffering living beings are not figures, they are not **OBJECTS**!

Lord Jesus asked the future Apostle PAUL, "...why persecutest thou ME?" Saul of Tarsus could have answered truthfully, "I did not persecute you, only your disciples." But Jesus does not know the difference between Himself and a disciple. His disciples are He. His suffering little brethren and sisters are not OBJECTS of His thoughts, of His cares, of His love — they are He Himself; they are and will be always SUBJECTS. If imprisoned Christians were OBJECTS, it really would make a big difference whether hundreds of thousands or a few score are in prison. But our suffering brethren are not OBJECTS, they are "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). The church is "His body" (Colossians 1:18). He is in prison even if one single brother suffers there. Now, He is me, because "not I live, but Christ" (Galatians 2:20), Christ who identifies himself with the sufferer. He is my real I. I am for myself always subject, not object. A Dutch publication, REFORMATORISCH DAGBLADET of 7/20/1978, had a big headline: "WURMBRAND TOTALLY REJECTS SCHOLARLY OBJECTIVITY." So it is. When we speak about men, objectivity is wrong. We must be passionately on the side of truth, love, and the sufferers, while being blind and deaf to the arguments of our enemies. The church of Christ is right. Its oppressors and traitors who compromise with the tyrants are wrong and despicable. There exists no in-between. God Himself said, "I will put enmity between the seed of the woman (the Savior) and the seed of the serpent" (Genesis 3:15) Enmity, and not objective research, compromise and peaceful co-existence. This applies to Communist persecution of Christians, as well as to political and private life. This also applies to relationships between groups of men. Righteousness must triumph. Whoever is not anti-Communist is not Christian, as whoever is not anti-devil is not Christian. Marxism is Satanic as I documented in my book "Was Karl Marx a Satanist?" (A free paperback of this title may be obtained. See request form at <https://helpforrefugees.com>, in the third column, N. Ed.) The Communist doctrine cannot be Christianized, nor can the devil's legions be evangelized. We refuse any objectivity in this matter and advise you, if you stand for a righteous cause, to refuse "objectivity," too. "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)



The Communist Jilava Prison. Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug-shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand when held in the Jilava prison, in communist Romania.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father are this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

**Heroes of the Faith and their Families, Helped with your Gifts**

Some pictures of elderly Christians Imprisoned under Communism for the Faith.

Read their full testimonies in our past newsletters at <http://helpforrefugees.com> (third column!)



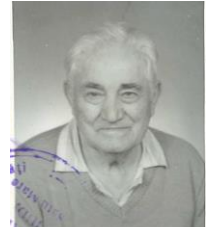
**Baptist elder  
Nikolai Kruchinin**



**Mashnitskaya  
Leonida Antonovna**



**Mashnitsky Petru  
Nikolayevich**



**Christian minister  
Mihai Sabau**

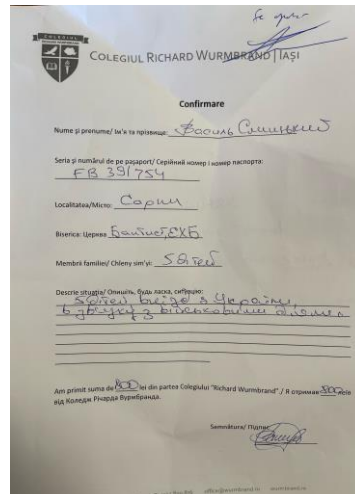
suffered at first 3 years from communist imprisonment for organizing home-churches. He was held 1969-1972 in Kurgan, in the former Soviet Union. He was again arrested by the KGB and imprisoned in the years 1980-1983 in Tomsk. He was rehabilitated, in 1992 after the fall of the Soviet Union. **Read his full testimony in our 9/2019 Newsletter.**

Ukraine, was arrested and imprisoned for two years under the (former) Soviet Union Civic Code Article 138, as the owner of a house, where Christian church meetings were held. **Read her full testimony in our 9/2019 Newsletter.**

son of Leonida Antonova, was convicted for his Christian activities in the former Soviet Union to 4 years imprisonment. His father was imprisoned for the faith as well. He wrote: “Thank God that He has given me the grace to suffer for Him and so I can be a testimony to my brethren in faith.” **Read the full testimony in our 9/2019 Newsletter.**

was imprisoned by the Romanian communist secret police for holding underground church meetings in cellars, hay lofts, hidden dwellings. When arrested he left behind a wife and 7 children. We continue where possible, helping a surviving spouse or a child. **Read the full testimony in our 9/2019 Newsletter.**

**Ukrainian Christian Refugees  
Helped with your Gifts**



Pictures of Ukrainian refugee family of Baptist brother Vasil Solinkin and signed receipt for help received in-hand.





of being called up for war, we began to pray what to do, and then my friends who left to Poland, they persuaded us to leave from there, we decided to go to Poland without fully understanding where we would live, how we would be there. But God provided, we were given a small house with one room where we live five. I had to go to work at a construction site, and also for work I had to leave for another city for five days. It's hard for my wife to heat the stove alone so that it is warm and there is hot water. And from today I was left without a job, so the employer began to humiliate me, I tried to talk to him about God, he made fun of me, said that there was no God and I had to leave him. Sincerely, the Semenenko family.

Greetings, dear brother! We learned about you from Sergey Porkhun. My name is Vyacheslav, I have been a member of the Baptist Church since 1998, I live in Ukraine in the city of Boyarka, where I served as a deacon of the church. I have three underage children, when the war began on February 24, we were in our city for 9 days, gun shots were heard, rockets flew through our city, being on a robot in a boiler room for two days without a shift, I was scared, I didn't know what to do. My family and I prayed, looked for an answer, what to do, go somewhere or stay. We decided to stay, but when the evacuation began in our city, we decided to try to go by train, but we didn't succeed, there were a lot of people who wanted to leave Kyiv. We were confused as to what to do. I started calling friends to ask for advice, help. One community in our city evacuated people to Western Ukraine. And they promised to help us. And it was a miracle, because the train that we thought to leave on the second attempt was canceled. The next day we went to Western Ukraine, the way that before the war we traveled for 4-5 hours, we drove 20 hours. It was very hard; the children were very tired. We were received by our friends in the city of Borshchiv. We stayed there for two weeks, where we worked at the church, on the church plot, cleared away trees. But my heart was not calm, sirens sounded there too, plus the fear



Ukrainian Christian refugee family Kucher, escaped the war with five children.




 COLEGIUL RICHARD WURMBRAND | 

Confirmare

Nume si prenume/ Nume la epitaire: Vira Krivuts

Serie si numar al de participare/ Copilului nascut / nenumit nascut: ED-1930

Localitatea/Municipiu: Suhorodka, Ukraine

Comunitate bisericeasca: Great Commission Church

Membrii bisericii/ Comunitatii: 1

Descrie situatia/ Situatiile, date medicale, certificații: Shelling began in our town for a long time. I hid in the basement. I could not take it anymore. I suffer of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree disabilities.

Am primit copia de 2022 de la parintele Colegiului "Richard Wurmbbrand" / R. Episcopul 2022 2022  
 la data: 19.03.2022

Christian refugee Vira Krivuts from Snihurivka, Southern Ukraine, Great Commission Church, wrote: "Shelling began in our town for a long time. I hid in the basement. I could not take it anymore. I suffer of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree disabilities."



**Ukrainian Christian  
Refugees  
Helped with your Gifts  
A few samples of  
receipts below:**

### **Bombed apartment building in Kiev, the capital city of Ukraine.**



Good afternoon, dear Michael: We are the Porkhun family, I am Sergej, and my wife Larisa, we have three children, Daughter – Mylana (15 years old) Son – Timofii (14 years old) Son – Daniil (10 years old) We lived in the city of Bucha, where our children went to school, my wife worked as a teacher. I worked in the city of Kiev. We always (even before we got married) went to church in Kiev - and were, and are members of this church - "Salvation Church" on General Pukhov Street - 4. After we were married, we went to live in Bucha, and so continued to live here in the house (which was left by my grandmother) We always went to the Baptist Church in Kiev, where we were baptized. After moving to live in Bucha, we always went to Kiev Baptist Church, which is 20 km (or 13 miles) from Kiev. Until the war began - February 24. On the second day (February 25) we left Bucha, and went into the village near Bucha 40 km (or 25 miles) - Makarov.

We spent 5 days there, and when a bomb fell on our house, a girl was wounded and her mother died. (The town of Bucha, Ukraine, was the site of most horrid massacres by Putin's Russian soldiers. According to the mayor and other local authorities, approximately 1,000 bodies have been recovered from the town, including 31 children. Photo evidence showed corpses of civilians, lined up with their hands bound behind their backs, shot at point-blank range, which ostensibly gave proof that summary executions had taken place. N. Ed.) We couldn't stay there any longer and decided to leave, we didn't have gasoline. The local military gave us some gasoline and we were able to take secret paths through the forest. Thus, we found ourselves on the road leading to the city of Ternopil and ended up in a church of our friends in the town of Borshchiv. After spending the night there and filling up a full tank of gasoline, we headed for the border with Poland. We have an old car (Daewoo Lanos 2004) We have never driven long distances, and here, with God's help, we drove for so long. Poland opened their border to Ukrainian refugees and we were able to drive through. Here in Poland (the town of Czestochowa) there is a very small church, a few people. The pastor does not speak English, only Polish.

READ AND PASS IT ON!

## Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

Dear contributors:

My gratitude to all who donated generously toward helping so many refugees from Ukraine, a true flood of displaced individuals. More than 4 million have escaped the current war and another 3 million are expected to come out. If one reads the daily news, one will be convinced easily these are not exaggerated figures. These are persons who flee from extensive bombing and continuing total destructions of whole towns.

It happens that my birth country, Romania and the Republic of Moldova (also a Romanian language country) have together the longest common border with Ukraine. At the same time, Romania is one of the poorest countries in the European Union and Moldova is economically worse. Between Romania and Moldova so far, nearly 1 million Ukrainians have sought refuge already. Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000/24 hours. Most of these refugees are women with 3 to 8 children. Fortunately, many other countries in Europe and North America are accepting to resettle these refugees, if they can arrive there. Many churches outside Romania, have sent transportation means, like buses and even chartered flights. These refugees speak Ukrainian and Russian. Here and there, the communality of the Romanian language is of help since some border localities like the university town of Czernowitz (name in German, Cernauti in Romanian) where my mother was born, used to be part of Romania before WWII. Some of the younger generation might have a little knowledge of English.

Through many reliable contacts of many years in Romania, we concentrated on helping with local Romanian currency of US \$200 to \$2,000 per family of **Christian believers** refugees. Many came out with only the shirt on their back. There were miles long lines at the border. Through the local Christians who deserve all praise, we provide pocket money given in hand for food and believers' lodging for a few days, until there is a partial resolution as to near future plans of settling some place somehow or moving-on further to other countries. \$2,000 seems to be a large sum for an elderly couple who could escape but most couples come out with larger groups of 10 to 15 children and grandchildren. Just as one example, we paid for a Victoria village home, \$6,000 for a one-month lodging and food for 3 adults and 12 children. Most of these refugees entertain the illusion of taking refuge out of their native country and their lodging and work, for a short time but the way the news comes out on this prolonged war, I doubt this will be the case. I believe these refugees will remain refugees for many years to come. We publish in this newsletter a few receipts of scores more, documenting what I wrote above. Again, thanks and God Bless, **Michael Wurmbrand**

409	Власенко	Валентин	Мефодьевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Корнеевич	1958	Казахстан
411	Куркин	АЛЕКСЕЙ	ЯКОВЛЕВИЧ	1958	Россия
412	Левен	НИКОЛАЙ	ВИКТОРОВИЧ	1958	Казахстан
413	Романюк	Владимир	Николаевич	1958	Украина
414	Тиссен	Давид	Давидович	1958	Россия
415	ТУРКЕВИЧ	Василий	Тарасович	1959	Украина
416	Бьчюк	Степан	Павлович	1959	Украина
417	ДРИСВЯНИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Россия
418	СКВОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варавин	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Лященко	Борис	Владимирович	1959	Украина
422	Ткаченко	ИВАН	ИВАНОВИЧ	1959	Казахстан
423	МАРЧЕНКО	Станислав	Павлович	1960	Украина
424	Донченко	Александр	Максимович	1960	Украина
425	Отмахов	Вениамин	Александрович (Валерианов)	1960	Узбекистан
426	Савченко	Михаил	Михайлович	1960	Эстония
427	Фадеева (ШВЕЦОВА)	ДИНА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1961	Алания
428	ШВЕЦОВА	АННА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1962	Алания
429	Богодимов	Александр	Валерьевич	1962	Эстония
430	Миняков	Павел	Дмитриевич	1962	Эстония

Above, a **sample only** of a long list, our mission was able to compile beside other lists, of over 480 elderly Baptist Christians most of them still alive, who suffered for the Christian faith in the former Soviet Union. The prison sentences amounted from 2 years, to as many as 18 years of communist prison. If considered together, their years of prison-sentences shown in our **abbreviated** table, would most likely add up to over 2,000 years of prison. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> column together, show year of birth and the most recent country they live in (like Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, etc.) We try obtain exact addresses, so we may be able to send encouraging help to those still alive. We were able to send repeated help to about 120 such elderly Russian-speaking Christians and over 110 of other languages. Many of their testimonies you can read in the monthly newsletter. Testimonies available also on the internet. **Look up third column at: website: <https://helpforrefugees.com>**

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