

## HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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

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



Late Reverend Richard Wurmband with wife, Sabina

April 2024

### Announcement:

Free copies of the paperback books written by Pastor Richard Wurmband:

**"Reaching Towards the Heights";**

**"Tortured For Christ";**

**"Was Karl Marx a Satanist?";**

and **"The Pastor's Wife"** by Sabina

Wurmband, may be requested using the order form at the

<https://helpforrefugees.com> internet site.

(See third column!)

"To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

(1 Corinthians 9:22).

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

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmband  
**THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE DEFEATS COMMUNISM**

The Communist have surely economic and military interests in the Middle East, but in their fight to conquer Israel, using the Arab states and guerillas trained in Moscow and Peking for this, the principal purpose is spiritual. In Red China under Mao Tze Tung all the churches were at first closed and desecrated with posters on which it was written "Hang God." Innumerable Christians were tortured to renounce their faith and killed. The number of people killed could be as high as 50 million. But Satan is not satisfied. He would consider it as his greatest achievement to have "Hang God" inscribed on the church of Nativity in Bethlehem. Antichrist wishes the church of the Holy Sepulchre changed into an Atheistic museum with blasphemous pictures. He would like to create an Academy of Atheism on the place where Christ has suffered for the redemption of the world.

The victory of the hatred against God in the land where Jesus walked-nothing less than that can satisfy Satan. The Communist inspired Arab guerillas also fight for this. The conflict in the Middle East is only on the surface an Arab-Jewish conflict. In depth it is the conflict between

Satan and the chosen people of God. Therefore the sympathy and the full support of every true Christian is on the side of Israel.

Satan's plan must not be accomplished. The Communists and their Arab fellow-travelers must not put hands on the holy city. Every Christian pilgrim in Israel must know that the passion of Christ has not happened only 2000 years ago, but that He continues to suffer today in His mystical body, the church, martyred by the Reds.

Another main target of Communism is the United States. American youth shouts Communist slogans. The Communists attack the U.S.A. from within and from without, because the fall of the States would mean the destruction of Christian civilization, the end of liberty everywhere and a terrible blow to the church of Christ.

We consider that Communists are men just like us. They also have the image of God, only that they staying in darkness, the image of God cannot be seen in them. When we hear them shouting the stupid slogans of the Reds, we know that they try to cover with much noise the fear of the emptiness in their own souls. Blasting bombs and shootings express the rage of not being able to suppress the call of God which they hear, too, calling them to repentance. Courageous Christians in countries oppressed by communism are completely free to say “no” to communist tyrants because their love toward God is stronger than the fear of suffering. This is the highest form of freedom!

You can receive freely my documented book “Was Karl Marx a Satanist? for distribution on campuses and at gatherings of radicals, where Christians and their pastors should never be absent. I encourage all Christians not to miss any occasion, to go there, to give out literature and to speak with the revolutionists. Saul of Tarsus has been such an one and has become an apostle.

Every Communist can be won for Christ. To try to do this, being among them is much more effective than to participate at dinners of rightist organizations in which one anti-Communist tells other anti-Communists what they already knew, that Communism is bad. Communism does not begin in communist countries like communist China. We have it right in the Free World, here Communists must be helped to know Christ and to get salvation.



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 Wurmbrand 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!)



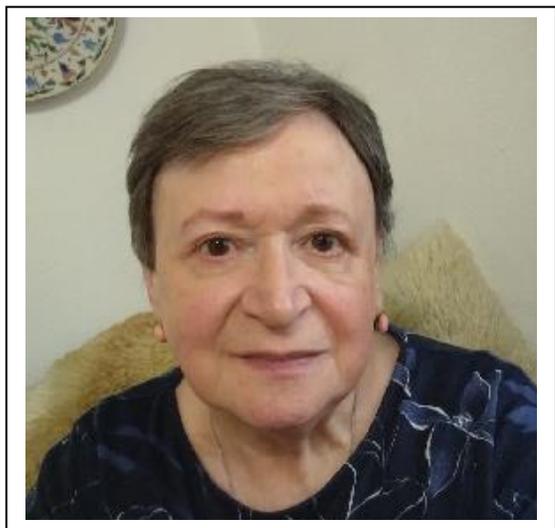
Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand who made 14 years of communist prison (right) with late Reverend Langa, imprisoned 16 years (died in 2013) and his late wife Doina. Picture was taken in 1993 after the fall of communism in Romania. (Help continues to be sent to many other surviving bedridden elderly Christians who were imprisoned under communism or some of their children who suffered bitter persecution as well.) Read Langa's daughter testimony on next page.

### TESTIMONY OF MINISTER TERTULIAN LANGA

#### **Imprisoned 16 years in former communist Romania for his Christian witness**

Biographical Note on Rev. Tertulian Langa graduated in philosophy, law and theology. 3 months after he married in 1948 he was arrested by the communist government. He will see his daughter born meantime, only when she was already 16. Having been interrogated in many communist torture prisons he described these tortures: “After being beaten with fists in the face to produce a confession of guilt, with his eyes covered by dark glasses (using tin lenses) he was led into a basement room. With pants off, he was sat down, arms tied by a thick rope around folded legs and knees, while a metal bar was passed under his knees. Abruptly the metal bar was raised in the air in between supports and he ended head down. To avoid leaving marks, a wet cloth covered his bottom. Then painful blow after blow followed with some big wooden bat. To muffle the shouts of pain the torturers had stuffed old socks into his mouth. As he seemed to mumble some words instead of shouting in pain, his tormentors hoped to hear a confession. They quickly tore off the socks out of his bloodied mouth. In total consternation the torturers found out, he only had kept repeating again and again, ‘Jesus!’ It was the night before Good Friday.”

At his trial the communist prosecutor declared, “there is nothing incriminating in his file. However how could he be imprisoned if not guilty. Therefore I ask the maximum sentence of 20 years.” Imprisoned uninterruptedly for 16 years, he had met many imprisoned political and religious personalities of Romania, Rev. Richard Wurmbbrand included. Even while in prison he organized secret prayer meetings, sermons. Once freed he functioned as an underground minister preaching in hay-barns, cemeteries, forests and even in public markets.



### **Testimony of the daughter of minister Tertulian Langa**

“My name is Maria-Manuela Goția and I am the older daughter of Doina and Tertulian Langa. I was born in October, 1948, when my father had already been arrested for 6 months. From April 23, 1948, barely 3 months after their marriage, my parents were brutally separated (mother was then 23 years old, and father 26) and they would meet again only 16 years later, on June 23, 1964.

For 7 years, my mother had no news about my father, she didn't know if he was still alive. Only in 1956, he had the permission of a one and only visit, in Lugoj, and because he also took me, I also had my first meeting with him, face to face, but between the bars. Neither then, nor after my

father's release, I met a stranger: I loved and admired my father, and I was proud of him because my mother shared him with me every day, because everything she did was illuminated by her strong love. Everything for the mother was contained in one and the same great love and trust in God, which could also encompass the pain of separation, and the courageous confrontation of the struggle for existence and the responsibilities that she could not share; the same love and trust gave him the certainty that the sufferings and dangers that my father experienced in prison, like our lives, were part of the same common calling of them, as young husbands, to give one and the same witness for God, for the Church and for Christian values. A serious but honorable calling, which my mother knew how to cultivate without any ostentation, beautifully and creatively. Her faithfulness was faithfulness to the Good God, Whom she never doubted and Who never let her down. Soon after the imprisonment of my father, my mother's father, a colonel in the former royal army, was also arrested. My mother showed her Christian faith as she often repeated to me how she was never left without protection, but even at extremely difficult crossroads, God showed her a way: a modest position as a nurse, which no one envied, but which ensured a minimum salary. So that my grandmother, my mother's sister (then a child) and the two of us would not miss anything, my mother knitted for everything, cut and sewed our clothes, with great taste. And in this way, without words, she taught me every day that it is not conditioned by how much you have or social success that life is rich, but by how you live it. She surrounded me with beauty, chosen music, good friendships, cultivated faithfully despite the risks, especially with the families of other persecuted people. I received from her the clear perspective on good and evil and the example of her courage to make firm choices, a courage lived discreetly but never abandoned. But above all, she gave me the gift of faith: even today I pray with my mother's words; and now I am encouraged by her words: "God knows why this happens" or "He knows for whom it is useful", with the living consciousness that "nothing is accidental", therefore "let's give", her motto until the end .

I married in 1972 Anton Goția, then a university assistant, and between 1972-1978 our 5 children were born. In 1974, my husband was secretly ordained as a minister. He served secretly in the underground church, officially continuing his teaching career. Since 2012, after a blessed marriage of 40 years, I have remained a widow. Among the children, the youngest is a minister and the others, in their careers and in their daily lives, are faithful to the faith inherited from their forefathers, protected with sacrifice and passed on like a precious flame. Praise be to God!”

Apartment house destroyed through Russian bombing in Mariupol, Ukraine, where 40% of whole town has been close to obliterated.

Over eight million refugees have escaped so far from Ukraine into different European countries.



**Testimonies of  
Christian Refugee-Families  
from War-Torn Ukraine, Helped with your Gifts!**



Members of the “City of Refuge” church in Berdyansk, Ukraine. The Ivancha family fled to Belgium. Ihor is an invalid.

Brother **IVANCHA Ihor** wrote: “In the first days of the war, my eldest son and I lost our jobs, the company we worked at closed. We spent most of the first night in the basement of the house because an air raid alert had been issued and there was a threat of airstrikes. The next night we decided not to go down to the basement, but to be at home, just to be together in the hallway. They also slept on the floor in the hallway, or near the doors in the rooms, because if a rocket or aerial bomb hits the house, there is no big difference in how quickly death will come. During the day, only my eldest son and I left the house to go to the shops for groceries, everyone else was at home, because the air alarm sounded constantly. This is how we lived for about a week, during which time people in the stores almost completely exhausted all the products, especially those with a long shelf life, and the question of how to continue to provide for the family’s needs became increasingly acute. About a week after the start of the war, our acquaintances and some of our relatives planned to leave Ukraine, but we did not have personal transport, so we did not plan it. But then, the day before departure, we were also offered and promised to solve the issue with transport. For the sake of the children’s safety, we decided to accept the offer and leave Ukraine, but our eldest son stayed in Ukraine because he was already 18 years old. We said goodbye with tears in our eyes, because we still don’t know if we will see him again. Of course, if there is an opportunity, we communicate with him and with other relatives who remained in Ukraine.” (Above family picture shows 3 daughters, 5 sons & wife.)

## Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

April 16, 2022

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 asylum already. **Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000 every 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 hardly more than 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 these newsletters a few testimonies and some receipts of scores more, documenting what I wrote above.

\*(Update February 2024: Refugees still pour-in most days at the rate of 8,000-10,000 !) Michael Wurmbrand

409	Власенко	Валентин	Медфодьевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Корнеевич	1958	Казakhstan
411	Куркин	АЛЕКСЕЙ	ЯКОВЛЕВИЧ	1958	Россия
412	Левен	НИКОЛАЙ	ВИКТОРОВИЧ	1958	Казakhstan
413	Романюк	Владимир	Николаевич	1958	Украина
414	Тиссен	Давид	Давидович	1958	Россия
415	ТУРКЕВИЧ	Василий	Тарасович	1959	Украина
416	Бьчков	Степан	Павлович	1959	Украина
417	ДРИСВЯННИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Украина
418	СКВОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варавин	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Ляшенко	Борис	Владимирович	1959	Украина
422	Ткаченко	ИВАН	ИВАНОВИЧ	1959	Казakhstan
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

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 obtaining 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 speaking 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>**

### Help for Refugees, Inc.

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Gifts are US tax-deductible. Help for Refugees is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Nonprofit Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Service. For IRS nonprofit status you may use this link:

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/allSearch>

and enter EIN: 953064521.