

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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Late Reverend Richard Wurmland with
wife, Sabina

The Book of Acts, 6:15:

" And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel."

Late Rev. Richard Wurmland spent 14 years in the Romanian communist prisons for his Christian faith.

Mrs. Wurmland also was imprisoned nearly three years in same prisons.

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Mrs. Sabina Wurmland

Let this meditation regarding the martyrdom of Saint Stephen be called: God's Beauty Parlor!

I come from a world apart. Romania, my homeland was a Communist country. I come from a world of prisons, of slave labor camps. A world with many, many fears and many, many tears. And whatever newspapers or even churchmen will tell you, do not forget the tears of your brethren and of your sisters in Communist countries. There are thousands of women in Communist prisons; In the labor camp I was imprisoned there were at least one hundred thousand men as well. When the men were put in prison the churches and Christians remained without pastors. The Communists gathered the Christian women as well, and thousands, and thousands of women were put in prison and slave labor camps.

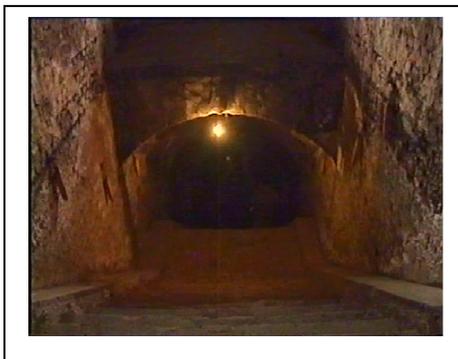
When we were put in prisons without anything, hungry, beaten, we worked at a certain moment at building a canal and we had to throw heavy stones into a river. So we picked up the heavy stones and the stones cut our hands and made them bleed, but not only our hands were bleeding, our hearts were bleeding. Mothers, wives behind locked doors and iron bars. Sometimes the Communist would gather a few children in a cell near ours and would start to beat the children. We were six or seven in the next cell and when the children started to cry the first one among us said, "It is my Mary". We began crying every one of us. We were convinced it is my child, my child in the hands of the Communists and beaten. Altogether we cried, "My Child!" even we never saw these children.

You have your children. Treasure them. Give them your time. Give your children your heart. Thank God for having them. The Communist would like to have your children, their minds too in their hands.

So we worked at this canal. We never knew what day it was. There was no Sunday, no Christmas, no Easter. Sometimes when we worked on the fields, someone would whisper, "It is Sunday", and you could see the prisoners working and weeping remembering such a beautiful morning when they could be in the house of the Lord. How you should treasure your church, your pastors. Pray for those who today, thousands and thousands and thousands in the Communist bloc, in countries like China, North Korea, Cuba even, are somewhere, freezing, hungry, beaten. Remember them. Pray for them and learn to thank God for the many blessings, which you have.

On one of such Sundays when we were brought back to our prison cell, some five or six women gathered on the concrete, under the bed in order to be able to pray together without being seen through the peephole because the door had a peephole. We did not have a Bible. We did not see a Bible. India, you know is so very poor, very, very poor. When I visited India I told Indian Christians, "Have you ever thought about how rich you are? You hear always speaking about poor India, but have you ever thought how rich you are having the Bible?"

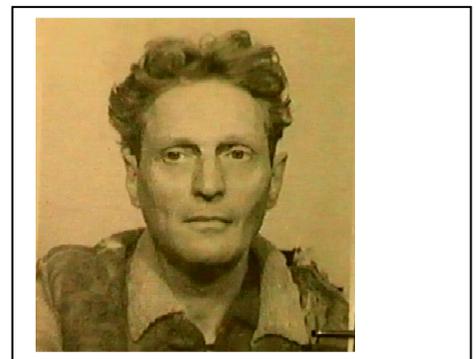
The communists could not take away what we had gathered in our hearts. A little bit of faith, a little bit of hope, and a little bit from the word of God. Just thank God for having the Bible. It is written there that Stephen was full with the Holy Ghost and with the wisdom from God. And when you are full with the wisdom of God and with the Holy Spirit, no wonder that his face was beautiful like the face of an angel. While we were talking in a whisper, under the bed about Saint Stephen we had among us a lady, one of the richest ladies of Romania. She was not a Christian. She was in prison because her husband had been the political leader of the country. Then she said, "I wonder about you the Christians, you seem to be intelligent women, but how could you believe that Stephen, standing before his enemies knowing that he would be put to death, how could you believe it, that his face could be so beautiful? A Christian lady answered, "I am sorry for you. You do not know Jesus, the Son of God. But whenever Jesus comes in a heart, He never comes alone, He always comes with all His richness. He comes with His angels. He comes with the glory of heaven and so when you open your heart and Jesus comes in your heart to be your Lord and Savior, He brings His beauty. And so Stephen could be so beautiful like an angel. And while we spoke at once the door opened, the Communist guard came directly to the place where we were gathered under the bed took us all out, gave everyone a hard beating; bleeding with many wounds he threw us back in the prison cell. But we the Christians we knew what price we had to pay to talk from the Bible and to pray. We were afraid for this lady who was not a Christian, how will she react and what would she say. And while we were thinking about these things, the first one who came to speak with me was this rich, rich lady who now was poor and hungry, bleeding all over the face, smeared with blood and tears. She said, "Now I know the very fact that the Communists are persecuting the Christians, the very fact that they have beaten us only because we would speak about Jesus, this very fact for me is the best proof, that your God is God indeed. And your Jesus will be also my Jesus the Savior." And she did not know that now her face smeared with blood and with tears, shone and was beautiful like the face of an angel.



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 Jilava.

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

Your gifts have allowed us to help financially the Agape Orphanage in Pascani, Romania, an orphanage started by my parents, Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand; the Richard Wurmbrand College in Iasi, Romania and many elderly Christians (between 70-100 years old), who spent years within communist prisons in Eastern Europe because of their Christian witness. Some of them were held in common cells with my parents. The following pictures tell it all. Thank you for all your prayers and gifts. Michael Wurmbrand
Christian Charity At Work: A complete story in pictures!



Ilie when first brought into the orphanage.

A shack, Ilie Prostire, age 2, was rescued from, by the Agape Orphanage Christian workers!

Ilie Prostire's Story

At age 2, Ilie was found by Agape Christian Orphanage workers and local police, tied with a rope to a dirt-floor inside the shack shown above. Mom and father, both alcoholics disappeared, grandmother had died shortly before and two uncles in charge, alcoholics as well.

The orphanage workers found around him, dried corn cobs the child tried to nourish from. Since there were no documents, the orphanage had to reestablish his identity with the help of the hospital he was born-in. Ilie has three other step-brothers, all placed in homes for orphans. During the eighteen years he lived in the orphanage, Ilie grew up, finished the local high-school with high marks, became a dedicated Christian and now works and lives on his own.



Ilie Prostire, now 20, was raised for 18 years in the Agape Christian Orphanage
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The AGAPE Orphanage was founded in 1993 in the city of Pascani, Romania, by the late Reverend Richard and Mrs. Sabina Wurmbrand.

16 Ukrainian children caught in the middle of war are helped at Agape Orphanage to hear the Gospel of love and peace!

From utter destruction...



To a respite of peace!



16 Ukrainian children were brought for a two week period, straight out of the war-ravaged eastern region of Donetsk, Ukraine into the Agape Orphanage in Pascani, Romania. These children were thus exposed to the Gospel-message of love through the joint efforts of a Christian Baptist, Inna Prokopchuk, active inside a German humanitarian organization and Dorin and Carmen Gavrila (in background, middle and right) leaders of the Agape Christian Orphanage. Margarita, age 10, coming from inside a Ukrainian refugee camp, explained how she used to live with her grandparents who had no opportunity to flee the theater of war since all transportation means had been destroyed. She expressed admiration for life in Romania where she cannot hear the sound of shootings and bombs. Anastasia lives with a younger sister and with her mother inside a refugee camp. Dasha also housed in an Ukrainian refugee camp, explained how her home and all houses around in the neighborhood had been utterly destroyed. Mark, 10 years old, lost his mother in a bombing raid by Russian troops. He hardly had the courage to talk. Thus Ukrainian children, met these Romanian Christian orphans who had passed through difficulties and were thus encouraged to trust in God for their future life.

Christians helped with your gifts:



Elena POPA

A Christian Testimony:

I am the daughter of Mihai Nicolae, sentenced to 10 years of jail for his faith, for activity in preaching the Gospel in communist Romania, in the Army of the Lord Christian movement.

I was old enough when father parted (to communist prison) to feel the pain of separation from our only support. It was very difficult as there were great wants, no one helped us, as we lived in a village, we went to bed hungry. Mother worked from early morning till night to maintain us, leaving us under the supervision of our older sister. I thank now God for everything. I am 68, married, live in the Galati County, have 4 daughters, 2 sons. One is married and another works. It is still difficult but God helps us through everything with patience.

God bless those thinking of us, and we pray Lord Jesus protect your life and families and you should partake into the eternal life.

Christians helped with your gifts:



Stan Valerica

A Christian Testimony:

I am Stan Valerica, born in Pechea Galati, Romania, married to Stan David. We have 5 girls, the oldest being a teacher. My husband used to be a watch repairman but nowadays as nobody fixes watches anymore he works in agriculture so we may make a living. I am 59.

My father Mihai Nicolae was imprisoned (under Communism) for 5 years between 1959-1964. I was a child but can remember how difficult it was as we were 8 children. God's goodness never abandoned us. When my father returned from jail, I grew up in a Christian family till I married. My father was a supporting member of the church. I am grateful to the Lord, my husband is involved totally in the army of the Lord work in our local (church) having 500 members. It is difficult financially but the Lord does not let us miss a thing. My husband has many church programs, youth programs too and our church is constantly growing. We are praising the Lord our 5 girls are active in the church and we can follow our father who ended his life victorious at 83. I live in the same locality with my mother whom I often visit. We look forward all of us to be home with the Lord. In our thoughts and prayer we direct ourselves to those who have the heart to help and prop up those in need. We pray the Lord give you His blessings of all kind. In deep gratitude and thanks. The Lord give you peace and grace of all kinds forever.

Sister Valerica

Christians helped with your gifts:

Preda Iovita
A Christian Testimony:



I live in a village named Marga, Raionul (County of) Mehedinti, Romania.

I remember how my father was arrested in a night of October, at midnight. 4 (communist) policemen searched the house, confiscated all our religious books, and many publications sent by Reverend Joseph Trifa (the founder of the Army of the Lord.) After making an inventory he was transported to Caransebes and then to Timisoara.

After 6 more month they sentenced him to 7 years of prison spent in the prisons of Aiud, Gherla (where Reverend Richard Wurmbrand was also imprisoned at the same time, NT) and Jilava. We were warned to stop any religious activity. It was very difficult in those years and only the Good God knows how we survived and we thank Him for making us victorious.

Christians helped with your gifts:

Stepanescu Victoria
A Christian Testimony:



Widow of STEPANESCU ILIE who passed through 4 years of Romanian Communist prisons. She writes: " My late husband was sentenced in 1959 to 9 years of jail just for being a (Christian) member of the Army of the Lord. At midnight 4 secret policemen entered our home with drawn handguns, asking us to keep our hands up, checking if we did not have weapons and they took any religious books we had. I remained alone to raise 3 children without any support. The Communists also took away our home, while the children could not continue in school since their parents were regarded as enemies of the government. My husband executed 4 difficult year of communist imprisonment and afterwards could find a place of work only with much difficulty. Now I live with my daughter, and am thankful to God for His help in passing through all these difficulties."