

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

July 2015

From the unpublished writings of Rev. Richard Wurmbrand:

Gospel of John 17:22 (King James Version):

“And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:”

Late Rev. Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in the Romanian communist prisons for his Christian faith. Mrs. Wurmbrand also was imprisoned nearly three years in same prisons.

There is a fleeting glory of this world and God’s eternal glory. We may obtain God's glory in being one, by showing oneness with our far away brethren and sisters.

These brethren and sisters suffer deep pain. When in deep pain one feels abandoned, rejected. Even Lord Jesus on the cross according to the Gospel of Matthew 27:46 "cried with a loud voice, saying (in Aramaic) Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?"

A token of love, a parcel, a good word conveyed at the right time to all the members of the family, to children especially, may save fellow-Christians from deep depression.

During all my 14 years in the communist jails of Romania, my family and the families of other tens of thousands of Christians did not get any sign of love from Christians abroad, much less any concrete help. Our land was visited by many high-ranking foreign clergymen and evangelists from the West. None inquired about us or our families, though we were very well known abroad.

I do not wonder that the Catholic Polish Cardinal Wyszynski was in a communist jail for nearly two years and wrote afterwards that only his dog and one German priest, named Zink, showed any interest and love while he was imprisoned.

In Nazi times not one bishop of the Lutheran church went to prison or a concentration camp for having opposed Hitler's policies in taking the defense of the Jews. There were rank and file Christians though who did.

Apostle Paul also wrote that nobody stood by him in persecution.

Nearly one hundred years ago a Christian woman of Finnish nobility named Mathilda Wrede became a Christian at the age of 19. It so happened that her father was the governor of a province in Finland called Vasa. Prison inmates were called from time to time to his mansions for doing various repairs. Mathilda Wrede felt the souls of these prisoners was her mission field. She broke many social conventions of that time, especially for a person of her standing to witness her Christian faith to these prison inmates. Her brother reached beyond the comfortable house or secure province of Vasa. He left their cozy home to become a missionary in faraway Russian Siberia.

It is told that during World War Two an American officer commanding a group of soldiers found out that they had been encircled by enemy troops. He issued the following proclamation: "The enemy is in front of us, behind us, on our right and on the left. The enemy completely surrounds us. This time it cannot escape!"

The Bible explains we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, by fellow Christians all suffering. We are surrounded by widows and many orphans. Like someone who has a task or job to fulfill, if day by day we want to practice our faith every morning we need think how to reach out to all such fellow Christians. The opportunities to practice our faith are limitless.

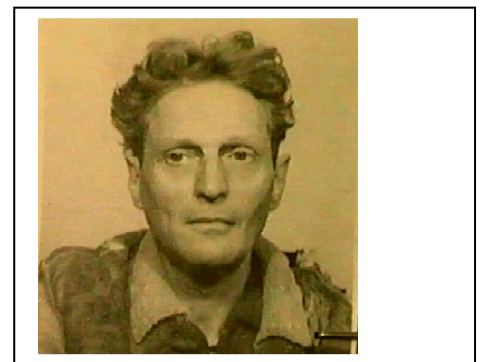
Becoming one is not just coming together in worship, in agreement and with the feel "I am ok, you are ok." In the history of the church, often one Christian arose, someone considered insignificant yet this person made the difference by kindling again the Lord's glowing fire He brought on earth, of love for our fellow Christians.



The Romanian Communist Jilava Prison:
Entrance to the underground cells



Totally dark Jilava cell where many
Christians were held prisoners



Mug shot of Late Rev. Richard
Wurmbrand when held in Jilava



The Wretched Shack From Which The Nemtanu Children Were Rescued



The Miserable Kitchen



The Nemtanu Sisters In Their First Year In The Agape Orphanage

The three sisters Bianca, Stefana and Sabina Nemtanu (pronounced: Nemtzanu) were abandoned by their mother at a tender age. Shortly thereafter their father contracted tuberculosis and died. Their grandmother herself very old and sick tried to take care. It proved to be beyond her capabilities. The girls were so dirty that children, at the school they attended, refused to approach them. They smelled so bad. The Romanian State Child Protection Agency asked the Christian Agape Orphanage to take in these children. Their grandmother died meantime, so they have no living relatives now. The three sisters attend school with great success. Christian love did change their lives!

The AGAPE orphanage was founded in 1993 by late Rev. and Mrs. Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand.



FUNDAȚIA CREȘTINĂ PENTRU COPII

AGAPE

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www.orphanageagaperomania.com e-mail : agape.pascani@yahoo.com

The Orphanage

The Kindergarten

The Christian fondation for children Agape from Pascani, Dragoș-Voda street, number 23, Iasi,Romanian is confirming trough this document, that it reacived the sum of 4000\$ in 07/16/2015. That sum is representing a donation for the endowed establishment's needs, from Organization " Help For Refugees" – PO BOX 5161 TORRANCE ,USA.

The money will be used in the aim of supporting the orphan chlidren protected in Agape orphanage. We thank you!

Director,
Dorin Gavril



One of the receipts acknowledging the Help For Refugees 2015 donations

When communism fell in Romania, there were over 200,000 orphans to a 20 million population. (There are less than 130,000 in the US which has a population of more than 315 million.) The running expenses of the orphanage when started in 1993 by Rev. and Mrs. Wurmbrand, amounted to about \$25,000 per year. Due to many new requirements of the European Union and galloping inflation, the orphanage needs over \$120,000 per year to function properly. Due to shortage of funds, the orphanage must rely on local donations of food-packages, cans and containers. Some of its grown-up kids do work in the fields.

Please share this newsletter with all your Christian friends list, church lists or send us their addresses (with their permission) so we may send them this newsletter!

“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 elderly Christians (between 80-90 years old), who spent many years within communist prisons in Eastern Europe because of their Christian witness. Some of them were held in common cells with my father. The following pictures tell it all. Thank you for all your prayers and gifts. Michael Wurmbrand

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Christians helped with your gifts:



Monica CALOTA

A Christian Testimony:

I am the youngest of the 9 Opris children. I was in my 2nd grade when my father returned (from communist prison) as a gaunt, thin, poorly dressed individual. I still remember his embrace. Our mother would sleep only 3-4 hours a night because she had to spend 3 hours on buses to go to work in another town. I remember a neighbor recalling how she found my mother washing clothing past midnight in the local river. I had a life full of difficulties...Praise the Lord we all grew up, I have two children and was laid off. I am happy for having had such parents, poor in material things but rich in their love for God.

Before my father died I asked him, "are you scared of death?" "Ha," he answered, "my wish is to meet the Lord." I am sure he did. Amen!

Christians helped with your gifts:



Anica IFTIMOAIIE

A Christian Testimony:

I am the oldest daughter from 8 children of Mihai Neculai. God worked in our family since my father while fighting in the Second World War on the front he passed through difficult times and one day he became a Christian. God, to whom he prayed, saved him. He became upon his return a member of the Army of the Lord. ... He collaborated with a very gifted itinerant preacher Ioan Marini (was also helped, now deceased.) Together with several other brethren in Pechea, my father was arrested (by the Communists) in 1959. It was August 17. He went to work and did not return home anymore. The Secret Police undertook a house search accusing us of hiding weapons. I was the oldest of eight children and the youngest was one year and eight months. We went through very difficult times as only my mother and I could work in the collective. The Communists seized all we had: 3 sheep and one goat, a sewing machine. A Christian brother bought it back from the Communists for 1200 lei so he gave it back to us. God should reward him. From February to December, mother worked in a state nursery, working 10-12 hours a day, walking 4 km, I worked 3 days a week in the collective farm and the other days in some tailoring with the sewing machine so that we have some food to buy for all the 8 children. There also was a sister bringing us some milk and some fruits, etc.. God reward her too. I knew nothing of my father for about one and a half years. After his sentence he asked us to send him a 10 lbs. food package. How could we send such when we hardly had what to eat ourselves! I remember how in 1961 mother was very sick and in a hospital in Galati (legs and hands were swollen.) I was home alone with the other 7 children and between tears was singing for them lullabies mentioning the parents who were not home. Some days mother all she had to eat was one onion. We 8 children all we had to eat for the day were 4 eggs. We sent once to my father the meat of a lamb we got as a present for us as children. We petitioned the Communist government to release our father because we are 8 needy children. I ended up being interrogated by the Secret Police and they wondered how could I write and answer like this being just a child. In one year 5 of the children were sick at the same time. In 1963 God gave me in marriage a wonderful husband who felt close to us and in 1964 my father in an unforgettable moment returned home. Presently I have 5 children, two girls and 3 boys. We bothered to raise them as believers, since this is the world's greatest treasure. I raised my kids knowing what I went through and advised them to stay faithful. Now that all these sufferings passed, I saw how God's hand sustained us and He deserves thanks. Pains and suffering passed and so did our years and we wait for His rewards. God should bless you since you thought about those who suffered.

Christians helped with your gifts:

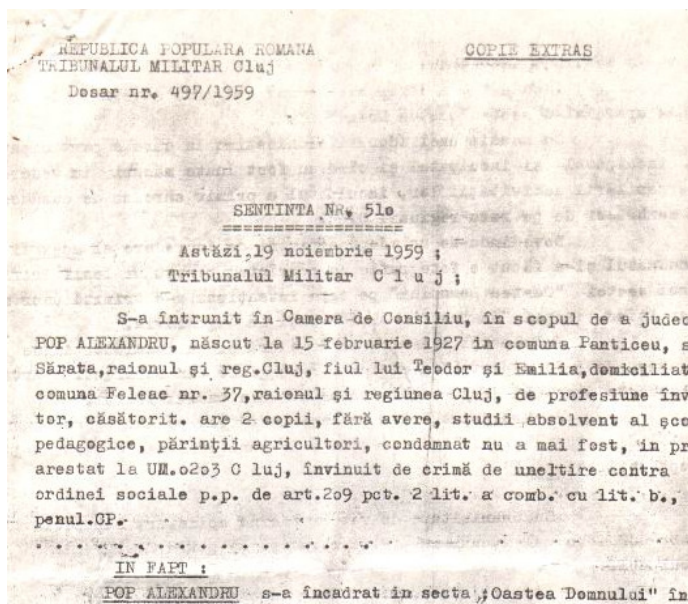
Pop Cristian

A Christian Testimony:



I am born in January 1959 in Feleac-Cluj and am the son of Pop Alexandru who was sentenced to 13 years of hard labor and confiscation of all goods during the (communist) totalitarian regime.

Cristian attaches a copy of the sentencing of his father, which summarily is translated below, as it gives an idea of what it took to be sentenced to 13 years of jail as a Christian under Communism in Romania! Pop Alexandru died in a communist prison.



Partial Reproduction Of The Romanian Communist Tribunal Sentence

“The Cluj Military Tribunal, 11/19/1959, Sentencing of Pop Alexandru:

“ Pop Alexandru, born 2/15/1927 in the Panticu village, Sarata borough, Cluj County, son of... farmers, address... being a teacher by profession is married, has no possessions, is presently arrested being charged with the crime of plotting against the public order according to the article... of law...

(Continued onto the next column!)

“Pop Alexandru became a member of the Army of the Lord religious sect in 1949, after it was forbidden by law, being active until his present detention.

“To carry on the orders given, this individual has carried a fervent (religious) witnessing, travelling in the whole country, being a leader of this movement with the help of Moldoveanu Nicolae (a famous church hymnals composer, now deceased, also helped by us, NT) and Capatana Ioan.

“ While Dorz Traian (another leader and great Romanian poet, now deceased, we helped his surviving daughter, NT) was in house arrest in Bucharest, Pop Alexandru kept in touch and followed his orders.

“This guilty person took part in organized meetings, and followed the movement’s policy not to participate in the political and cultural life of the state and to oppose the collectivization of agriculture.

“ During the house search were found over 700 letters. He spread the movement’s literature. He received the position of a leader in the Cluj region. He took a picture of himself at the tomb of Rev. Trifa, the founder of the movement, he intended to send to someone in Yugoslavia. He also was in contact with Panaiodor Alice of the Norwegian Mission (to the Jews) (this lady took care of Rev. Richard Wurmbrand’s son when parents were arrested and made 6 years of prison for this, NT) and discussed with her about the Army of the Lord. He used for his travel money gathered from the members of the movement.

“ He is being sentenced to 13 years of forced labor, 10 years of loss of civic rights and confiscation of all his goods because of the crime of plotting against the social order.....”

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