

Report: Pastor in Laos Tortured and Martyred for Spreading Christian Faith

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A pastor in Laos was reportedly tortured and killed for spreading his Christian faith, shocking his congregants and loved ones.

Locals discovered Pastor Seetoud's body last month after he failed to show up for an Oct. 20 meeting with fellow believers, according to Morning Star News.

The preacher—a husband, and father of eight children—was heading to the meeting, 62 miles away from his village, on his motorbike. After he failed to arrive, at least 20 people came together to search for him around a nearby mountain and at a local hospital.

Pastor Seetoud's body was later found Oct. 23 in a ditch near a mountainous jungle road.

Provincial police reportedly believe he was tortured before his death and was "severely disfigured," with speculation brewing those responsible were officials at the local level where Pastor Seetoud lived.

Some claim relatives and locals had threatened the minister for months before his death, demanding he stop sharing his Christian beliefs. A former adherent to animism, Pastor Seetoud and his family abandoned the religious structure in 2015 for the Christian faith.

"No words can describe the pain that Seetoud's family and the local churches are experiencing," an evangelical leader told Morning Star News. "The great injustice about the whole

situation is that those in authority were either directly or indirectly involved in Seetoud's murder."

The preacher's Bible was found near his body.

This story and its contents originated in a report by Morning Star News.

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