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# Headlines

General Curia of the Society of Jesus



## Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

### ***Outcry against the unjust imprisonment of an octogenarian Fr. Stan Swamy SJ***

**Fr Stan Swamy SJ**, a Jesuit and a human rights advocate, was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in India for alleged Maoist links on October 8, 2020. Fr. Stan, 83 years old and in poor health, has worked tirelessly for five decades among the *adivasis* (indigenous people) in Jharkhand, India. The imprisonment of human rights activists in the Bhima Koregaon case, over the last 2 years comes as a challenge to the survival of democracy in India. On October 12, the [Jesuit Conference of South Asia](#) called for [a National Day of Solidarity](#) for Fr. Stan and others imprisoned ([watch the video](#)), resulting in large protests all over the country. #StandwithStan is a call given by all of them demanding immediate release of Stan and other activists. The veteran Jesuit continues to receive numerous statements of support from political leaders, civil society organizations, religious leaders, activists, students, and innumerable concerned individuals and institutions from all over the world. Letters to political representatives in India from different parts of the world are being sent and online campaigns have been launched calling for his immediate release. Fr. Stan is currently in Talaja Prison in Mumbai, together with a few other activists accused in the same case, in a barrack euphemistically called jail hospital, following the Covid 19 protocols. He is in very precarious condition, unsuitable for his age and health. Visits are not permitted.

Jesuits condemn the arrest and continue to mobilize in India and all over the world, to express their solidarity and to demand his immediate release #StandwithStan, #ReleaseStanSwamy, #FreeStanSwamy. Let us continue to remain in solidarity with Stan and all other accused praying that God of justice and truth liberates the humanity.

Xavier Jeyaraj SJ  
SJES - Rome

## TESTIMONY



### **Nurturing the Ecological Dimension of My Jesuit Vocation**

*Paul Tu Ja SJ, (MYN)*

What does ecology mean in my Jesuit vocation? I remember as a child ardently sweeping our compound, collecting leaves, and disposing them to a creek nearby. I was attracted to gardening and learned to till the soil and grow seasonal vegetables in our backyard. Even at a young age, I found it a breathtaking experience to gaze at the growth and bloom of the plants. In Myanmar, water is abundant and the soil conducive to the growth of vegetation. When I joined the novitiate, I had another opportunity to cultivate the soil of the huge compound.

[Read full testimony...](#)

## NEWS



### India - In Solidarity with Fr. Stan Swamy, a 83 year old Jesuit arrested in India - A Statement from SJES, Society of Jesus

The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) working in more than 80 countries all over the world are deeply pained to know that yesterday (8 October 2020) evening the National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested Fr. Stan Swamy SJ, an 83 year old Jesuit, belonging to Jamshedpur Jesuit Province, from his residence in Ranchi, Jharkhand – India. This morning, we are informed that he has been taken to Mumbai to be questioned in the Elgar Parishad event that preceded the violence between Dalits and Marathas at Bhima Koregaon near Pune on December 31, 2017. [Read more...](#)



### Beirut – Jesuit response to Beirut Explosion



### Global - The Society of Jesus demands the immediate release of Fr. Stan Swamy SJ

Jesuits all over the world are demanding **Fr. Stan Swamy's** release in India. Human rights defender Fr Stan Swamy SJ was taken into custody on 8 October by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) of India alleging that he had links with the Maoist, which he has denied totally. Fr Stan, who is 83 years old and in poor health, has worked untiringly for the marginalized, downtrodden, and other vulnerable communities, especially the indigenous people in Jharkhand, India, for five decades. The Jesuit Conference of South Asia has called Monday, 12 October, a [National Day of Solidarity](#) with Fr. Stan Swamy. [Read more...](#)



### Canada – Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) has a new look

Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) has

On August 4th a massive explosion devastated Beirut port killing 200 people and wounding some 5000. Lebanon was already facing a double crisis after taking in almost 1 million refugees fleeing from the Syrian war amid the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. The Society of Jesus got immediately into action, starting by the Lebanon Jesuit Refugee Service, severely hit by the explosion: [Read more...](#)



### **Spain - Justice promoting reconciliation**

On November 16th 1989 at dawn, a detail of Salvadoran soldiers belonging to the Atlacatl Battalion burst into the residence hall of the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) in San Salvador and killed six Jesuits (Ignacio Ellacuría, Segundo Montes, Ignacio Martín-Baró, Amando López, Juan Ramón Moreno and Joaquín López), a University employee, Julia Elba Ramos, and her daughter, Celina Ramos. [Read more...](#)

a new look ... but our commitment to social justice and equality is as strong as ever CJI has a brand new logo, newsletter name and design, and new website. Our new look embodies CJI's vision for the future, guided by the four Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) which serve to focus all the apostolic energies of the Society of Jesus in the next ten years, 2019-2029. [Read more...](#)



### **India – Fun Run 2020: A Virtual Run/Walkathon for Migrants**

In an endeavour towards rebuilding the lives of millions of migrant workers, who have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, the Jesuit Conference of India (JCI) is organising “FUN RUN 2020” – One Step for Migrants – a virtual event. The FUN RUN 2020 is a virtual Run/Walkathon to generate awareness and to support the cause of millions of distressed migrant workers in India.

[Read more...](#)



## Asia Pacific: Growing the safeguarding network

The conversation on safeguarding has been ongoing within the Society of Jesus for some years. A three-year project was launched: the Promotion of a Consistent Culture of Protection (PCCP). Fr John Guiney SJ and Ms. Michelle Hennessy presented the findings during the online Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific (JCAP) Major Superiors Assembly held in July.

[Read more...](#)



## Timor-Leste - Look at the joy you've brought this village!

In September, the community of the Nasuta village in Timor-Leste gathered to celebrate and rejoice together in being able to access clean water for the first time in their village. The gift of water – enabled through your generosity – has brought this



## Canada and the USA: An Ignatian Guide to Civic Engagement

Contemplation and Political Action is the title of an Ignatian Guide to Civic Engagement recently published by the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States to reflect on our Gospel call to promote the common good in the public square. Tim Kesicki, the President of the Conference says, “Contemplation and Political Action applies our tradition of Ignatian spirituality to our shared political life.

[Read more...](#)



## Africa - Children have 'nowhere to turn' as COVID-19 hits protection and social services

When COVID-19 related restrictions began, nobody knew how long they would last or what impact they would have on the daily aspects of life. Least expected were the negative consequences that most children have

community joy and hope for a better future. Our partner, [Read more...](#)



### Ireland - 'Not optimistic but hopeful'

The Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice in Ireland is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, 2020. Covid-19 restrictions may have curtailed ways of marking the occasion but according to the center's new director Dr Kevin Hargaden, the work of the centre is developing and flourishing. [Read more...](#)

experienced during this time especially increased exposure to child abuse risks and actual abuse. [Read more...](#)



### Spain – #Seguimos, launched in response to Covid-19

The campaign #Seguimos, launched by the Society of Jesus in Spain, aims to support already initiated projects assisting most vulnerable people along three lines of action: emergency help (food, health and housing), assistance in educational, psycho-social and labour market integration matters, and international cooperation. [Read more...](#)



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