

A hatchet man goes to glory

The life and death of a Christian who stood up for his faith.

By a fellow believer in West Asia.

My friend went to military school and then became an army officer. Later he began to work in a plain clothes division. He served in various parts of the world; sometimes he was shot and sometimes he shot others, but he didn't know the Lord. Sometimes he acted like a hatchet man (executioner). One day as I was trying to live in the Lord, my friend saw the Injil (New Testament) I was reading and he wanted to read it too. After he read the Injil that hatchet man disappeared and instead he became incredibly full of love and kindness. He refused to do some of the tasks he was given and tried to live in the Lord. But the organisation he worked for would not leave him alone; they forced him into a life full of difficulties and psychological pressures.

As my friend witnessed us continuing to stand in the Lord for several years he entered a deeper spiritual battle himself. He began to resist Satan's demands which came through other people. In July this year he was given an order to assassinate someone, but since my friend had come to know Jesus, he rejected the order and made it clear that he would not act against the Ten Commandments. However, those who gave the order took him to a place he didn't know and tortured him to try to make him do the job he hadn't done.

We found the place where he had been taken. When we found him, his ribs were broken, his feet were broken, he couldn't lift his arms,

and he was bleeding internally. In hospital the internal bleeding was stopped and his body was completely covered in plaster, but no-one noticed the swelling in his brain. When he first came round I was sitting at his bedside. He said he had seen Jesus; when I asked him how he knew it was Jesus, he said "Because the man said to me 'I'm Jesus!'". The Lord Jesus gave him the strength to live in plaster for one month. He spent his time praying and listening to the Bible being read to him. Eventually he finished his fight of faith and went to be with his Father. His final words are still ringing in my ears: "My death is a sign of the beginning of God's awakening in this city and country. When you bury my body, make the name of the Lord known to those who haven't heard it." He died because

they couldn't stop the bleeding in his brain. We still haven't been able to bury him; those who killed him are scared because of the things they have done according to Satan's wishes and by what they have seen of his eternal life in the Lord and the honesty and righteousness it brings. They are doing everything to delay and make difficulties for the funeral. Let them – whatever the Lord wants will be done!

THANKS BE TO GOD THAT MY FRIEND IS WITH THE LORD.

(Translated from the original language by an Interserve Partner who introduced the author and his friend to Jesus).