HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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

September 2016

The Gospel of Matthew 6:9

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name."

# From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand: Our Father

It is said that a bird hunter caught a most marvelous bird and was ready to kill and stuff it. The moment he put the knife to its throat, somehow, to his greatest astonishment, this bird talked: "Please spare my life since in my nest I got little chicks. If you will take pity, I will impart three pieces of simple advice of inestimable use to you." The bird catcher thought there are so many other birds in this forest to be killed and stuffed. This one though is miraculous since it could talk. Who knows what divine wisdom I could learn from it! So he promised the bird to spare its life only if he reckons its advice as being good. The bird imparted him the following three admonitions:

- "No matter who tells it to you, give no credence to what makes no sense;
- "Never regret having done a good deed and
- " Never strive for a goal that cannot be reached."

The bird catcher loved these pieces of advice. In the past he had believed a lot of absurd declarations of prominent people. He had lost financially being generous and regretted it. He also forgot many a time how limited his own human powers were when trying impossible undertakings. Therefore he could only compliment the bird, "Bravo, good pieces of advice, indeed!" and he let it loose.

Hardly having flown away, as soon as it alighted a higher tree branch, the bird started insulting him. "Stupid, idiot why did you let me free? In my belly I carried a precious diamond. Had you killed me, you would have become rich for life!" Immediately hearing this, the hunter was sorry he had released the bird. He started climbing the tree to catch again the bird which flew higher and higher. Finally, a bad move and the catcher fell and broke his legs. Groaning in great pain as he hardly could move, the bird approached, mocking him: "How could one be more stupid

than you? I gave you three pieces of advice you appreciated and declared such as being excellent. How could you not have followed them for five minutes even? My first advice for you was not to believe anything that seems absurd, no matter who tells it. How could you believe a precious stone be found in the belly of a bird? I also told you to never regret a good deed. You let me free. Why would you be sorry? Then I also advised you not to be striving for anything too high. How would you imagine you could catch a bird with bare hands? Why would you climb a tree to catch a bird? You are thoughtless!"

Innumerable Christians recite the "Our Father" prayer. Had they not been led astray by politicians, by mindless evolutionists claiming the world appeared of itself, by atheistic propaganda even, how happy they would have been! But we resemble this bird catcher. When reciting "our Father" your face should beam of joy. You are not an orphan but have a Father. I knew children who grew up as orphans since their father was imprisoned. When freed though, them calling him "a father" had a different special sound. The tone betrayed their unbound joy. They had become like other children, they also had a father. Christians have a Father. They are never alone, abandoned. God, as a best Father takes care of them. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" writes Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Romans 8:28. He was imprisoned, he was several times nearly killed and yet he knew God as his Father. Do believe the first words of this prayer and a profound peace will flood your soul.

A ship captain, to make his child a pleasure, brought aboard his young daughter. Since he knew he will be busy, he brought on the ship also her babysitter. In the middle of the ocean a strong storm arose and the ship seemed ready to capsize. The captain ordered the preparation of emergency lifeboats. Trembling and in terror, the babysitter barged into the main cabin to wake up the kid:" Quick, get dressed, the ship is going down!" The child rubbed her eyes, asking: "Where is father?" "Your father is on the captain's deck, where else since he is the captain!" Then the daughter replied laughing, "Be at peace. How could a captain let the vessel sink with his own daughter aboard?"

Having the Creator of the Worlds as a father we can be quietly at peace. Your life will not finish in a total loss. Even carrying a cross during your life, we Christians believe death will be followed by a glorious resurrection. The Father is always watchful. Make sure though you have God for your Father. It is not true for all men... Lord Jesus reproached to some evil men: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." (Gospel of John 8:44) If in your heart are lies, deceit, selfishness, wrong faith, you could not be called fatherless but you do have the wrong father who is throwing its victims into hell. If you repent, if you believe your sins have been forgiven and are ready to start a new Christian life of love and truth, then you have been born of a new Father. Full of joy you may recite "Our Father" in full knowledge that your Father is the same God who created in the beginning the heavens and the earth.



The Communist Jilava Prison. Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds with no Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. has helped for the last 40 years orphans and Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith in present and former communist countries. Also helped is the Richard Wurmbrand College, a high school in Iasi where many children of disadvantaged families are helped to study. See <a href="http://helpforrefugees.com">http://helpforrefugees.com</a>.

"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)

#### Christians and their families helped with your gifts Late Rev. Liviu Chifor



Testimony: "Dear... You, as well as Mr. Michael Wurmbrand and any donors are but the Hand of the Providence as God cares for us also. You will receive an ample reward from God and I uphold you always in my prayers. Attached my biography: My name is Liviu Chifor and am born in Tirgu Mures, Romania. I was arrested and sentenced to 7 years of jail and 10 years loss of civic rights for plotting against the social order (through religious activity.) Then automatically the sentence was reduced to 5 years. I only spent 3 ½ years in prison as I profited of an amnesty. While in prison I underwent a throat operation and once out of prison was unemployed for 20 years. I worked here and there as a journeyman being pensioned only in 1989 after the anticommunist revolution. I am happy to receive your gift and please forget us not in the future. Now I am sick with many debilities (I underwent 3 operations.) ... A communist prison guard stated to me, "we will level you off with a heavy roller!" They imagined we (religious people) will never be able to spring out from the ground. God's plan was for some to die but for some like us to survive and spring up. He be praised! Many thanks, peace and all the best, Liviu Chifor, minister."

#### Christians and their families helped with your gifts Late Rev. Vasile Gherman



He wrote: "I was born on 10/17/1921 in the Popteleac village, Salaj County, Romania. I was ordained and named a minister in the Cluj county in 1945. On 10/10/1951 I was arrested by the communist police and sentenced to 6 years of imprisonment for a plot (against the communist social order.) I executed my sentenced and then had house arrest in the Fetesti county by Constanta. Had no work. I found a shack belonging to other deported people and fixed it up. I stayed under house arrest for 3 times, for a period of 24 months each time. I worked as a journeyman on (communist. state-owned) farm. imprisoned I worked in a lead mine. I had the right after 4 years to one postal card being informed of the death of my mother 2 ½ years before. In 1956, coming out of the lead mine, I made an underground church meeting for some of those imprisoned and sung the traditional "Christ is risen!" song. Since I was the leader of this service, my hands and feet were placed in chains and was placed together with other nine prisoners in a stockade. The other prisoners in the colony refused to work unless we would be freed from the stockade. The communist guards brought chains for all the prisoners (800 prisoners!) and we all were punished to 10 days of severe regimen, food was given once a day at 10PM, one small slice of bread and a small cup of hot water. Thus I was separated from my family for 12 years."

Due to tax laws inside Romania help needs be sent through the local nonprofit Sabina Wurmbrand Christian Association. On the right. one of the receipts for financial support distributed in turn as financial aid to many Christians and their families, most of them now 70 to well into their nineties. They persecution suffered under communism in Eastern Europe. Everyone endured many years of communist prison.

Christians and their families helped with your gifts



**Gheorghe-Aron Mladin** became a Christian in the late 1940s and knowing of late **Rev.** 

#### Wurmbrand's

imprisonment under communism, as he had met him before when preaching in his home-town Arad. he organizing prayer meetings on his behalf. Little did he suspect that 10 years later, he himself will be arrested and imprisoned on 12/16/1958, together with 12 other believers. During his 4 years of imprisonment he was held in 6 different prisons. They were transported wearing leg chains which were inflicting deep wounds. His martyrdom story is included in the book (in Romanian) Prisoners of Hope. After communism he conducted a successful prison ministry during which 28 common criminals were baptized.

ASOCIAȚIA CREȘTINĂ SABINA WURMBRAND Asociatie creștina non-profit București, sector 6, O.P. 74, C.P. 12

Am primit de la Michael Wurmbrand

Donația în sumă de: \$5000 Data: Iulie 2016 Scopul: Ajutor umanitar

Vă rugăm păstrați această chitanță ca o dovadă a darului dvs. către această asociație creștină caritabilă.

"... I-au rugat și au zis: "Domnule, am vrea sa vedem pe Isus." (Ioan 12:21)
"Atunci cei neprihăniți Îi vor raspunde: "Doamne, cand Te-am vazut noi flămand și Ți-am dat sa mănânci? Sau flindu-Ți sete si Ți-am dat de ai băut? Cand Te-am văzut noi străin și Te-am primit? Sau gol si Te-am îmbrăcat? Cand Te-am văzut noi bolnav sau in temnița si am venit pe la Tine? (Matei 25:37-39)

### In English

Asociația Creștina Sabina Wurmbrand este o asociație non-profit definitivă prin hotarărea Judecătoriei Sectorului VI din 11.12.2015 în dosarul 31699/303/15, înscrisă în Registrul Asociațiilor si Fundațiilor la numarul 108 din 11.12.2015

CHRISTIAN ASOCIATION SABINA WURMBRAND A romanian charitable organization Bucharest, sector 6, O.P. 74, C.P. 12

Received from: Michael Wurmbrand

Amount of donation: \$5000 Date: July 2016 Pourpouse: Umanitarian Help

Please keep this receipt as a record of your gift to this non-profit Christian charitable organization.

"...and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus." (St. John 12:21)
"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an'hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? (St. Matthew 25:37-39)



Director

Silvia Reiss



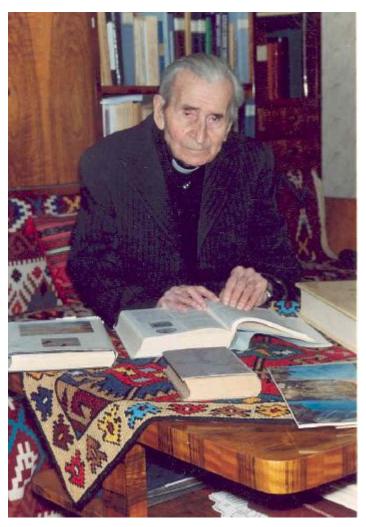
Sabina Wurmbrand Christian Association is an approved non-profit association through the Sector VI Court decision dated 12/11/2015, file 31699/303/15, officially shown in the Asociations and Foundations Register, position #108.



#### Raceanu Nicolae wrote:

"I was born 5/23/1931 in Birlogu Settlement, Negras Village, the Arges County, Romania. At the age of 18, being in Bucharest and hearing about the faith, I decided to buy a Bible. In 1951, when 20 I was baptized in Vulcan, the Hunedoara County. I returned to my native village and found out that right in the middle of communist repression, the number of believers were greatly multiplying. In 1958 together with other believers

I was also arrested and kept in prisons for 2 years. When freed I was taken under surveillance by the secret police until 1966 when together with a group of 25 believers I was arrested again. I was tried publicly twice. When freed again I was a parolee as I had to report weekly to the police. I am married to a Pentecostal believer and we have 11 children. We are old and suffering. There is no point in writing more, I did not even tell my wife all I suffered through under communism."



## Christians and their families helped with your gifts Late Reverend Racovitan Teodor

He wrote: "I became a minister and teacher in Tarnaveni on 3/4/1942 till 1948 when the church was closed by the communist government. The communist police threw me out of my house, together with my 4 children. At the same ime they burned my library in a bread-making oven. No one in town dared help me out. I lived in a carpenter work-place till July 1951 when I was arrested, taken to the Tirgu-Mures prison and then to the Cluj prison. I was placed under much pressure and tortures to renege my faith and then was sentenced to 6 years of prison. I was placed in a cell which was so crowded that we all had to stand and move about at the same time. Every time I was found praying I was taken to a stockade where I was allowed to stand only, received one slice of bread and a glass of water a day and water was flowing down the walls. I was daily beaten and insulted in a most inhuman way. Every interrogation ended up with me fainting and full of blood because of being beaten. I was tortured in many ways (one of the tortures was to push me against a wall with a

whole taken out door.) I weighed under 94 Lbs. and became sick receiving no medicine whatsoever. In 1954 1 was taken to the Jilava prison (in the same time period late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand was imprisoned in this prison as well), where the terror and tortures where beyond description, then to the Ocnele Mari where I was daily beaten. In 1955 I was transferred to the Caransebes prison, the authorities thinking I was about to die. The same year though under pressures from the West there was a general amnesty and I was freed. Though I came home, there was no job or housing and my children were not accepted into the state schools."

Eventually the church was reestablished after the anticommunist revolution of 1989. Reverend Racovitan still performed as a minister even when 90 years old.

Help For Refugees, P.O. Box 5161, Torrance, Ca. 90510, USA. Email: hfr@helpforrefugees.com, website: http://helpforrefugees.com (EIN: 95-3064521) is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, a list of organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. May be checked online at: http://www.irs.gov/app/pub-78/

## Christians and their families helped with your gifts

Late Reverend ANDERCAU Vasile



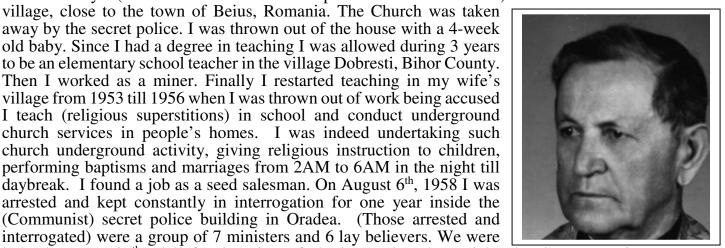
He wrote: "I was born 12/24/1919 in the Valea Vinului village, Satu Mare County, Romania.

Very shortly after I became a minister in 1947 I was expelled from the church by the communists but continued my underground activity until 1953 when imprisoned. I was arrested 1/2/1953 and sentenced by the Military Tribunal in Oradea to 10 years of prison plus two years of forced housing , if and when I would come out of prison, for the crime of "high treason."

I actually spent 10 years in the communist prisons of Oradea, Pitesti (one of the most horrible tortures happened there) Dei and did undergo forced housing in Valea Calmatui. I met while in prison Rev. Richard Wurmbrand who knows me personally."

> Christians and their families helped with your gifts Late Reverend Teodor Daraban

His testimony: "(When Communism came to power in the end of 1947) I was a minister in the Petran village, close to the town of Beius, Romania. The Church was taken away by the secret police. I was thrown out of the house with a 4-week old baby. Since I had a degree in teaching I was allowed during 3 years to be an elementary school teacher in the village Dobresti, Bihor County. Then I worked as a miner. Finally I restarted teaching in my wife's village from 1953 till 1956 when I was thrown out of work being accused I teach (religious superstitions) in school and conduct underground church services in people's homes. I was indeed undertaking such church underground activity, giving religious instruction to children, performing baptisms and marriages from 2AM to 6AM in the night till daybreak. I found a job as a seed salesman. On August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1958 I was arrested and kept constantly in interrogation for one year inside the (Communist) secret police building in Oradea. (Those arrested and



judged on June 25th, 1959 for the crime of plotting against the social order. Sentences given out were between 8 years and 25 years of imprisonment. In the night of December 5th, 1959 they bolted chains on my feet and they took me to the Gherla prison (where he stayed with Rev. Richard Wurmbrand in the same cell.) From there in June 1960 I was taken to the following prisons and labor camps, Periprava, in the Danube Delta, where for 3 years I performed agricultural forced labor. From there I was taken to Luciu Georgeni, Gradina, Stramba, Salcia from where I was placed in liberty in 1964 after finishing only 6 years of imprisonment from the 25 at which I was sentenced. Once home I worked in a brick factory and other places. I was pensioned 1980. I am the only one left alive from the group of 13 persons when tried. All others died. I wish God gives you you much health. In brotherly love your brother Daraban."

Read on the internet at http://helpforrefugees.com Michael Wurmbrand's interview on suffering under communism in Romania, how the Wurmbrand family arrived in the United States and started within communist countries their Christian help activities for persecuted Christians. HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. is a nonprofit charity for orphans, also for Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith in present and former communist countries.