

[Extract from a letter of Rev. Riggs from Harpout, May 1915]*

I referred last week to tortures inflicted on prisoners. I may add that so far as I have been able to find out the prisoners in whom we are specially interested have not been tortured. The death of one of our graduates is reported in Diarbekir from tortures inflicted in prison and the pastor of the church in Choonkoosh, a man who has long and worthily served in our churches died a violent death in prison there. The preachers in Haini and Dibneh as well as one of our Seminary students who was preaching in Aghun are reported to be in prison.

In two or three of my previous letters I have referred to one of our pupils who escaped from arrest while here. The trial for which he was wanted has come off. One of our former pupils, the one of our graduates who carried the letters was sentenced to six years of exile; another graduate who received one of the letters is given four years of exile; another former pupil also four years, and a member of our Senior class is given ten years of exile. I cannot comment on the fairness or justice of the matter. We shall never know.

* Source: LC/HM(Sr.)/Reel 22/547