

# Global Prayer

## Digest

July-September 2017 • Frontier Ventures • 36: 7-9

A woman wearing a vibrant, multi-colored shawl with stripes of blue, pink, and teal, and a purple headscarf. She is standing in a mountainous, hilly landscape with sparse trees and a rocky riverbed in the background. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

## DIVERSE, SMALL, AND UNENGAGED IN CHINA

- 3—There is a Holy God in Heaven, But the Pingdi Lost Track of Him
- 21— American Idol Chinese Style
- 28—If He Drops a Handkerchief In Front of You, He's Yours
- 29—Even the Small Children Get Drunk
- 30—Why the Chesu People Worship the Panther



Dear Praying Friends,

By this time, those of you who get the printed edition of the *GPD* know that it is being printed in Taiwan with the help of our friends with United Mission of Taiwan (UOMT). The Chinese version of the *GPD* is by far the largest with a print run of 50,000. We print about 3,000 in English. It is time that we give our Chinese brethren a larger voice in the content of this prayer guide for unreached people groups. They were able to give me two good lists of unreached people groups in the Chinese speaking world that will be useful each July when we cover Northeast Asia. I cut one of the lists down to those whom we have rarely if ever prayed for in the *GPD*, and tried to include the ones that are least reached, and “unengaged,” meaning they don’t have workers or Christian materials.

One thing that kept coming up in the daily *GPD* entries was identity. These peoples are trying to cling to their ethnic identity, sometimes as a way to not be swallowed up by larger groups. Like people everywhere, they need to put their identity in Christ. As you pray this month, remember that these same people groups have had very little prayer in the past. Prayer makes things happen, including extending His church to small ethnic groups in China that feel that their identity is being threatened.

Pray on!

Keith Carey, editor-in-chief, *GPD*

<http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/>

July 2017

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104-2721  
888-903-3322 (from within the USA)  
386-246-0170 (outside the US,  
including Canada)  
[subscriptions@frontierventures.org](mailto:subscriptions@frontierventures.org)

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Keith Carey  
For comments on content call  
626-398-2241 or email  
[keith.carey@frontierventures.org](mailto:keith.carey@frontierventures.org)

## ASSISTANT EDITOR

Paula Fern

## WRITERS

Eugena Chou  
Patricia Depew  
Patti Ediger  
Karen Hightower  
Wesley Kawato  
Ben Klett  
David Kugel  
Christopher Lane  
William Mason  
Bianca Ontiveros  
Ted Proffitt  
Cory Raynham  
Lydia Reynolds  
Jean Smith  
Allan Starling  
Chun Mei Wilson

## DAILY BIBLE COMMENTARIES

Keith Carey  
Robert Rutz

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Lois Carey  
Rachel Wearden

## GRAPHICS

Matt Anderson

## PRINTER

Yuli Color Reproduction Co., LTD.  
(Taiwan)

## WEB SITE

[www.globalprayerdigest.org](http://www.globalprayerdigest.org)

[www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/](http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/)

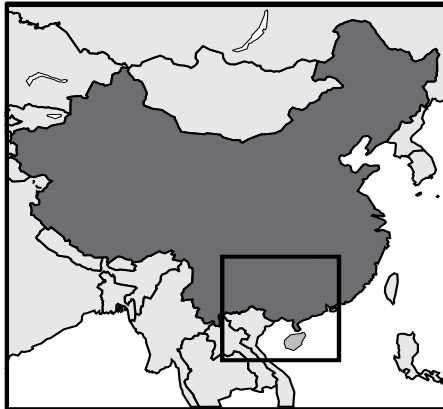
ISSN 1045-9731

Contents of the *Global Prayer Digest* © 2017  
Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104

Contents of this booklet may be reproduced if appropriate credit and subscription information are given.

## PRAY FOR

*A disciple making movement among every  
small tribe in China*

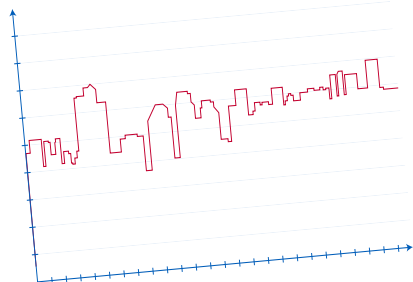




# WILLIAM CAREY LIBRARY

## THE KOREAN MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

Dynamics and Trends, 1988–2013



STEVE SANG-CHEOL MOON

## THE KOREAN MISSIONARY MOVEMENT:

*Dynamics and Trends, 1988–2013*

This book provides the most thorough, penetrating analysis of trends in Korean missions to date. Seasoned researcher Steve Sang-Cheol Moon maps the relatively recent rise and explosive growth of the Korean missionary movement, studying the mission force and significant themes in its experience over a twenty-five-year period. These articles and papers supply data on every facet: mission fields and ministry foci; finances; age, marriage, family, and general demographics; training and credentials; burnout and attrition; education of missionary children; leadership trends; and global partnership.

**List Price: \$24.99**

**Our Price: \$19.99**

ISBN: 9780878086306

Steve Sang-Cheol Moon (Author)

Paperback | 344 Pages | 2016

William Carey Library

**[www.missionbooks.org](http://www.missionbooks.org)**

**US: 1-877-333-4411**

# Prayer Resources for 2017!

## **Ethne to Ethne**

A regionally based prayer movement for UPGs working closely with *GPD*.

[www.prayerstrategists.net](http://www.prayerstrategists.net)

## **Global Prayer Resource**

Grand central station for prayer materials.

<http://www.globalprn.com/prayer-resources/>

## **PRAYER GUIDES**

### **Global Prayer Digest**

Daily prayer guide for UPGs. Get it free digitally!

[globalprayerdigest.org](http://globalprayerdigest.org)

### **Joshua Project**

Research and daily prayer materials for UPGs.

<http://joshuaproject.net/>

### **Light the Window**

Prayer for 365 UPGs once a year through 2020.

<https://www.ltw2020.org/>

### **10-40 Window Reporter**

Prayer for nations of the 10-40 Window.

<http://www.1040windowreporter.com/>

### **Prayerguard**

Online general prayer for UPGs.

[http://prayerguard.net/?page\\_id=209](http://prayerguard.net/?page_id=209)

### **Devotional Ideas**

How can you make the most of this prayer digest:

- Some people use it as a supplement to their regular devotional time.
- Others enjoy reading and praying around the dinner table with the entire family.
- We encourage you to gather monthly with other Christian friends who are involved in this movement.

Every day at the top of the page you'll find the name of an unreached people group for which to pray. The small maps will help you locate the day's feature.

# GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN THEM!

There are 474 minority groups in China with a combined population of more than 100 million. Though they are ignored by people, they have never been forgotten by our God.

One hundred years ago, God sent western missionaries to these areas. These missionaries brought the gospel to these areas where minority tribes lived. The living conditions were not good. Even today, the living conditions are too hard for many of us, but those missionaries stayed there the rest of their lives. Because of their sacrifice, we could potentially see many people come to Christ. Among 217 of the 474 minority groups, there is still no gospel witness.

Does anyone care about their salvation? This summer, I saw those who care when I visited a translation ministry.

BY ERNEST  
TO, A CHINESE  
BELIEVER

---

## BIBLE TRANSLATOR - A

In 1906, a missionary from England began to translate the Bible for this tribe. However, because of political issues, he had to leave.... The local Christian believers started translating the Bible again after the missionary left. They kept this up for generations.

In his old age one of the main translators came to know a graduate student whom we will call "A." A was challenged many times to continue the translation work. A had a nice job and his family did not accept having him give it up along with his comfortable life. He obeyed his family, yet this unfinished task was always in the translator's heart. Then the aging servant passed away. His faithfulness and persistence moved

---

A to surrender to what the Lord had told him to do years earlier: translate the Scriptures.

When people started to do their translation work at the dark and tiny room, A told me how important the completed Bible translation will be for the tribe. “Although we have many Christians already, without the Bible in the mother tongue, it is very difficult to embrace the faith.”

I saw a young brother in this translation team who was 16 years old. Starting with his grandfather, his family had been translating the Bible, and it is now in the fourth generation.

### **Evangelist B**

B came from a mountain area where there are no Christians. Because of poverty, the whole family had to move to the city and earn a living by collecting garbage. The whole family became believers in this city, becoming the first Christian family in their tribe.

B's grandfather was a very famous village shaman. One winter B came back to visit her grandfather, trying to preach the gospel, but her grandfather refused to believe. For the next three nights, her grandfather kept having the same dream and was told in the dream that he was dirty. It was a nightmare, especially for the grandfather who cared about cleanness so much. B took the opportunity to tell her grandfather that Jesus can make him completely clean, and he was finally willing to accept the Lord.

After accepted Jesus as Savior, grandfather was longing for God, but he could not read the Bible because he had cataracts. Though the family was poor they were willing to spend a lot of money to heal him. Grandpa almost read the Bible every day when his eyes were well. Six months later, he went to be with the Lord.

Grandpa's death made B realize that she had to preach the gospel to the elderly in the village as soon as possible. It would be too late when they passed away. At first she wanted to play the JESUS Film to introduce Jesus, but later she found that the elderly did not understand. Then she wanted to translate the subtitles into their mother language.

---

## GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN THEM!

---

B only finished junior high school. It was almost impossible for her to translate the Bible, but she was eager to share the gospel with the elderly. She had no choice but to learn from the beginning. There were no written words in her dialect, so she had to create a written language for it. Having never used a computer before, she learned her tasks slowly. The whole process was so difficult that she almost gave up many times, but for the gospel's sake, she had to keep on.

B read the scriptures to the elderly as she was doing the translation work. She led many elders to believe in Christ. She prayed for the sick, cast out demons, just as Jesus did. Signs and miracles followed her. By 2015, she led 400 members of this unreached people to become baptized believers.

### **C — Looking for the 100th Sheep**

For the sake of management, the Chinese government generally consolidates their minorities into 55 groups. In fact, these groups are not related to each other. In order to let every ethnic group hear the gospel in their mother language and to understand the Word of God, we have a responsibility to carefully find every hidden group. They are like the lost sheep that Jesus was searching for. C told me that they have found many unknown groups. Some have less than 100 people. Yes, God will not ignore any small ethnic groups, because in the future all nations and all the people will come to worship God together. (See Rev. 7:9-10).

### **D — Training Minority Workers**

D was Han Chinese. He saw ethnic minorities living in remote places with little opportunity to hear the gospel. Those who believe in the Lord lack shepherding. He was moved by the Holy Spirit and gave up a successful career to devote himself to doing something about it.

There are difficulties for Han Chinese who share the gospel with minority peoples. Because of the cultural gap between them and the superior feelings of the Han, the Chinese have been reluctant to learn minority languages. The Han Chinese often leave in frustration.



---

## GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN THEM!

---

D saw training minority believers to evangelize their tribes with their own languages was a more effective strategy. He first encouraged those minority group who have Christians in their groups to reach out to the unreached. He enabled and equipped them to be witnesses for the Lord among the unreached ethnic groups.

### **E —Caring for Bible Translators**

In China, to be a Bible translator never was a decent job. It is not accepted by family members who believe they have no future and look down on them. In addition, a translator's income is too low to meet household expenses. Most troublesome is that once the Bible translation is completed, they face unemployment.

God knew the dilemma that his servants had to face, so he prepared E. E was an excellent translator, but what God wanted her to do was to care for and help other translators. She had to put her work down and, obedient to God, go an unknown place to help another translator. How beautiful it is!

E tried various methods, hoping to help translators who could serve while they earned a living. She stumbled, but kept on trying, because she was convinced that God put the burden on her heart, and the most suitable door would certainly open. Last year, we heard the good news that God surely opened a door. Now this Bible translator can do the ministry while earning a living as a tent maker.

### **Which piece of the puzzle are we?**

I was visiting the Christian workers who worked among minorities, and I can surely witness how difficult it has been. I also saw that God still prepared and called His own people. Some were responsible for seeking and finding the minority group, some translated the Bible, some preached gospel, some train believers. Others mobilized the churches, others cared for the workers. Everyone was doing what God entrusted to them. Gradually we could see the ministry to minorities like a small puzzle piece by itself, but eventually becoming a beautiful picture.

Those of us who are relatively less busy must concentrate on prayer. Let us pray faithfully! This is our piece of the puzzle.

# MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY OF SAM POLLARD

## JOHN 14:12-1, RSV

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the father may be glorified in the son.

*Intercessors, as you pray for peoples, and for their harvesters, senders, and your fellow intercessors, ask him freely for anything and everyone He shows you ... up to and including the unreached in every tribe, tongue, people, and nation! Your asking ... results in Jesus doing ...which glorifies the father! Pray that believers will ask, and be given the privilege of doing great things for the unreached for the glory of the father.*



Does God call children to follow in the footsteps of their parents? Or does He call everyone independently of what their parents do? In the case of Samuel Pollard, it seems that he took things one step beyond what his parents did.

Samuel Pollard was born to a couple that both preached for the Bible Christian Church, a Methodist-based denomination. It was 1864, and the location was Camelford, in England.

Young Samuel put his faith in Christ when he was 11 years old. He wanted a career in the civil service, but God had other plans. At a conference in 1885, Samuel was convinced that the Lord wanted him to be a missionary instead. Two years later he sailed for China with the China Inland Mission.

In China, Pollard took language study before beginning his work in the city of Kunming, in Yunnan Province. Initially Pollard did evangelism and compassion ministries such as establishing schools and intervening on behalf of Miao people who were being taken advantage of by government officials and landlords. In 1891 he began work in a Bible Christian Church mission station where he married Emmie Hainge, another missionary.

*Pray that the Lord will help would-be missionaries to not settle for anything less than total dedication to his path for their lives.—KC*

## BIOGRAPHY, CONTINUED

DAY

02

“I shall never forget it. Our room was filled with glory and I had a manifestation such as I had never realized before. The glory of God came down and so filled me that I felt the Holy Ghost from my head to the soles of my feet. I had a promise at that meeting that we are going to have thousands of souls.”

It was only a year into Pollard’s ministry when he had this experience at a prayer meeting that convinced him that the Lord would bring thousands of Miao people to saving faith in Christ. It didn’t happen for 16 years, but it was worth the wait!

In 1905, a people movement among the Flowery Miao thrust him into a new role. His job was to produce a Bible for this people group that did not even have an alphabet. Some thought that he should use a Latin script, while others thought he should use the Burmese alphabet. Eventually he created his own script based partly on the written language of the Cree Indians. This script that he came up with is called the Pollard script, and it is still used today when writing in the Flowery Miao language.

At the age of 51, Samuel Pollard died of the flu in 1915. He is still remembered by the Flowery Miao as their spiritual ancestor.

*Pray that the Lord will raise up many more to take his word to the many unreached Miao and Hmong peoples of China.—KC*

### JOHN 14:15-17, NET

If you love me, you will obey my commandments. Then I will ask the father, and he will give you another advocate to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it does not see him or know him. But you know him, because he resides with you and will be in you.

*That’s Jesus, who had been staying with them, coming to live in them, and now living in you! So pray that he will have the time of your life as he enjoys praying through you for everyone and everything you ever dreamed of being included in his kingdom!*

## PINGDI (PING-DEE) YAO PEOPLE

## 2 COR 2:14, NKJV

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of his knowledge in every place.

*Pray for God to disperse the fragrance of Christ to the Pingdi people.*

PC Asia Harvest



A Pingdi boy

is rarely visited by outsiders, so they have almost no interactions with other people groups. With a population of a little over one million, the Pingdi Yao people have only 400 Christians. They have no Bible, JESUS Film, or even gospel recordings in their language. But these resources are available in similar languages of other Yao peoples.

Like other Yao peoples, the Pingdi believe in a god of creation, whom they call Tin Zay. He lives in heaven, and he's a holy god. But at one time, they crossed a sea, and lost track of this god. Like many other peoples around the world, they have a legend about a great flood that wiped out human kind.

There is potential for them to find the Lord, and they do not seem to have a strong set of their own beliefs. Will the Pingdi people be able to find the Lord without someone going to them?

*Pray that the Pingdi Yao people will knock, seek, and find the true God of creation. Pray that believers from other parts of China will take them the good news, and they will respond by producing their own Bible, JESUS Film, and radio broadcasts.—KC*

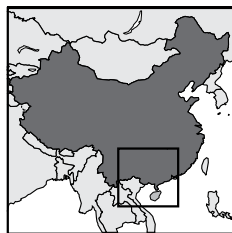
Are the Pingdi Yao people close to finding God or are they far from him? That depends on how you look at the situation.

They live in a northern section of Guangxi Province that borders Hunan and Guangdong, two other Chinese provinces. Their area

# WUNAI (WOO-NAI) PEOPLE OF CHINA

DAY

04



Cameron Townsend, the founder of Wycliffe Bible Translators once said, “The greatest missionary is the mother tongue. It never needs a furlough and is never considered a foreigner.”



The 12,000 Wunai people of China have no Christian contact and do not have their own Bible. Instead of the joy and peace of salvation through Jesus Christ, they depend on shamans who are hurriedly called after a death to chant

the “opening of the way” over the body. This chant is intended to show “the way” for the spirit to find the village of their ancestors in order to stay a while before they are reincarnated back to earth.

The Wunai are a unique people God has created to know him. In their culture there is already an implanted key to understanding Jesus. They seek “the way,” yet Jesus has already explained that he is the “way, the truth, and the life.” How agonizing that what they seek has never been shown to them.

*Pray that these workers will quickly learn the heart language of the Wunai to more clearly explain “the way” to faith in Jesus Christ and what the shedding of his blood has provided for them. Pray that the Wunai, who call themselves, “us people,” will be joyfully represented among the great multitude praising God around His throne in Heaven as we read in Revelation 7:9-10.—PE*

## JOHN 15:5, NET

I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me—and I in him—bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing.

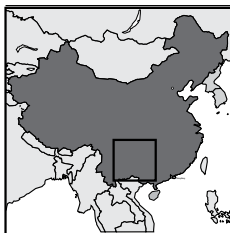
*Intercessor, every time you pray for these unreached peoples and their harvesters, remind yourself that because you are joined to Jesus, the harvest is sure to be abundant! Pray for an abundant harvest among the Wunai people of China.*

## BUGAN (BOO-GUN) PEOPLE

## 1 COR 4:15, NKJV

For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

*Pray for workers like Eleanor Chestnut to be thrust out to the Bagan people and others like them in southern China.*



**E**leanor Chestnut, a medical missionary, poured out her heart, soul, and life for the people of Guangxi Province in China. She operated on those who needed surgery, took skin from her own leg to close a gaping wound on an amputated leg, and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to those around her. Because of this there are scattered churches in the area of her ministry.

Something Dr. Chestnut didn't know was that there were nearly 3,000 hidden people close to her, so hidden they were not even discovered until 1996. They are scattered along the rivers and streams, grow rice on the sides of mountains, and are an isolated and remote population. Known as the Bagan people, they don't recognize a specific religion in their lives. Only traces of animism and ancestor worship show up in the daily activities. The women embroider lovely clothing while the men are busy with the agriculture that sustains them.

Unengaged and unreached are the heartbreaking words used to describe the spiritual state of the Bagan people today. While their neighbors have churches where Christ is worshipped, they have none. They are hidden to most, but not to the Lord.

*Pray for God to call workers with a heart like Eleanor Chestnut, to give their all for the master and savior among the lost Bagan. Pray for the Holy Spirit to raise up mighty followers of Christ among them.—PE*

# NUMAO (NOO-MAOW) PEOPLE

DAY

06



PC Asia Harvest

A Numao couple

stands ready for another to build upon. Who knows whether it lingers on a dusty shelf or has never been distributed or taught at all. What we do know is that at this time there is not one Numao who follows Christ.

In 500 BC the Numao were part of a great race who were forced to flee to southern China to escape persecution. Then conflict shattered the great race into tiny shards of people groups who became distinct in language and customs.

The Numao are sometimes called the “black trouser Yao” for the black trousers the men customarily wear. They worship spirits and believe demons live in the highest of their mountains. Because of their few numbers, about 2300, most mission agencies have largely ignored the Numao and others with such small populations.

*As the curtains of time are drawing closed, may we remember the few as well as the many, for all are offered the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for their salvation. The gentle shepherd leaves the great herd to rescue the one. May we pray diligently for the salvation of the Numao people.—PE*

**T**hey only have a simple audio recording to tell them about the most important matter in their lives! Someone labored diligently at one time to capture the nugget of truth that is the gospel in the heart language of the Numao people. It

## ZECHARIAH 4:10A

Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin . . . .

*Pray for small beginnings of spiritual growth to begin among the Numao people of China.*

## XIALUSI (SHEEAH-LOO-SI) PEOPLE

## GAL 3:26, NKJV

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

*Pray for the Xialusi people to put their hope, their faith, and their identity in Christ the king.*

Imagine yourself living in a situation where everyone you meet has to be able to speak Chinese so you can be able to communicate with one another. You live in a place that is remote because of high mountains. Situations like this mean that on opposite sides of every mountain there is a different language. With the large number of languages in the area, the government tries to combine the peoples even if it's arbitrary. So you are identified as part of a cluster of tribes like the Dong, but you aren't Dong. Your tribe speaks their own language. And with a population of about 4,000 in a country with over a billion people, your tribal identity is easily sacrificed for the greater good. This is the situation of the Xialusi people.

One of the common things you will see this month is the smaller people groups like the Xialusi struggle with their identity. Identity is who you are! And your identity is being overrun by others. Could this be the time when these smaller tribes put their identity in Christ? It would be great for them to identify with the king of kings! But how will they hear if there are no missionaries and no Christian materials, not even a gospel recording?

*Pray that soon believers will produce songs, stories, and Bible recordings in their language, so they can find the one we all must identify with on the final day.—KC*



## DIAO (DEE-OW) PEOPLE



I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness... Isaiah 61:10a, NIV.

Today, the Diao women stitch their people's histories into their clothing. Each detail, the patterns and vibrant colors of their garb, depict the customs and unique beliefs of each tribe.

There are over 2,000 Diao people living in Guizhou Province of southern China. In the 1950s the Diao applied for official recognition as a minority group and were rejected. Scholars later included them as part of the Dong nationality; however, the Diao adamantly identify themselves as a distinct people group.

Traditionally, the Diao have been animists who worship the spirit of the bull which they believe to possess remarkable power. In their history of challenged identity and social namelessness, it is fitting that the Diao are drawn to a symbol of strength. It is likely that most Diao have had no exposure to Christianity or to the Lord. The Diao must know their heavenly father who formed and created them uniquely, as a people to be treasured, not hidden among the masses.

*Pray for God to raise up spokespeople for the Diao in China. Pray that the Diao would know the power and love of God that gives us our true identities and clothes us in righteousness.—EC*

## GAL 3:28, NKJV

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

*Pray that the Diao people will put their identity in the firm foundation of Christ, not in their unique ethnicity.*

## CHANGPAO (CHUNG-PAOW) PEOPLE

### 1 COR 4:17, NKJV

For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.

*Pray for the Lord to raise up someone to take the complete gospel to the Changpao people of China.*

“This is hard to believe!” Su Yang, a Chinese believer was reading a Joshua Project profile on the Changpao people to a friend at church. She continued, “The Changpao people do not have any Bible translations, JESUS Film, gospel recordings, radio Bible broadcasts, or even anyone to tell them about God’s word!”

Her friend replied, “Tell me more about these people.” Su Yang said, “There are only about 6600 of them. They are similar to other peoples in Guizhou Province. The Chinese think of them as ‘Yao,’ but that term is very generic, and it refers to a group of tribes. The Changpao are determined to be different than the other peoples.”

They have faced hard times with severe poverty mainly due to their inability to grow crops because their region has such poor soil. They are proud, and they resist help from other people, yet many of them practice spirit and ancestor rituals. Daoist priests serve them as consultants when they face problems. The believers living in Guizhou could be God’s witnesses to the Changpao, but there are only a tiny number of them.

*Pray that there will be believers willing to be guided by God to reach the Changpao people. Pray that God will prepare the Changpao to be open to believers so they will know God’s word and be willing to follow Him and know His peace, love, and eternal life.—PD*

## SANQIAO (SAHN-CHEEOW) PEOPLE

*(This story is intended to illustrate aspects of the culture of this people group.)*

Jiang, a Sanqiao man, had just returned from working in a factory far away from his village located in the remote hills of Guizhou Province. He arrived at his uncle's home for a visit. Holding a fruit basket with both hands and bowing, Jiang presented his gift to his uncle and said, "Hui Cheng, it is so good to see you after so long." The elderly man welcomed his nephew by saying, "I miss our times together. Things are changing fast here in the village. The children are beginning to speak Chinese rather than our language. We had some tourists come, but they were not interested in our traditions. I feel sad inside."

Jiang responded, "I feel bad about all the changes. I love our traditions, uncle, but we have to change with the times. I heard they will be building a better road, so it will be easier for people to reach our village." Frowning and shaking his head, the uncle replied, "I do not like the changes. Someday we will just disappear as a people."

Many of the 6700 Sanqiao people have had to accept cultural changes. Most of them identify with the Dong people. Buddhism and ancestral worship are still a part of their lives. However, many Sanqiao are dropping all religious traditions. They need believers to present the gospel to them.

*Pray that God will open the way for his servants to reach the Sanqiao soon.—PD*

### EPH 3:6, NKJV

... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ through the gospel,...

*Pray for the Sanqiao people to place their identity in Jesus Christ. Pray for them to joyfully worship him in ways that honor both their culture and his kingdom.*

## YOUMAI (YOU-MY) PEOPLE

### ROM 8:39, NKJV

... nor height nor depth,  
nor any other created thing,  
shall be able to separate us  
from the love of God which  
is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Pray that the Youmai  
people, who seek to  
give blessings to their  
neighbors, will also seek to  
receive the blessings of the  
King of kings.*

*(This story is intended to illustrate aspects of the  
culture of this people group.)*

With a huge smile, Yun, a Youmai grandmother, was showing her granddaughter Ya how to make dumplings for the upcoming New Year (Spring Festival). "Remember, Ya, we need to make many dumplings because this year our village has invited all the other Youmai villages to celebrate with us."

Ya asked, "tell me about the stuffing for the dumplings." "The cabbage means you are expressing a blessing for a long life with love and happiness. Fish means you are extending a wish that the person will have great wealth. Mushrooms means you are extending wishes for a healthy life. Every stuffing is an important way to show how much you want to wish someone a happy and lucky New Year." Ya said, "I'm going to make one big dumpling with everything in it just for you, grandma!" Yun smiled and replied, "What a beautiful thing for you to say! May you always be as sweet as this candy!" Then she placed a candy wrapped in red paper in the girl's hand.

There are only about 2,000 Youmai people living in small villages in Guizhou Province. Youmai still continue with their traditions of worshipping their ancestors and the spirits. There are no followers of Christ among these people.

*Pray that soon they will know the greatest happiness  
is found in knowing Jesus as their savior and lord.  
Pray that they will see Jesus as their ultimate ancestor,  
and pray only to him.—PD*

# LIUJIA (LEE-U-JEEAH) PEOPLE OF CHINA

DAY

12

Wikipedia reports, “There are dozens of ethnic groups in Guizhou Province that are not officially recognized.” Not much is known about them, but this month we will pray for some of these ethnic groups Chinese believers recommended.

If you look diligently you’ll find 4,000 indigenous Liujia people in this province. The government classifies them as Han Chinese, but they have their own language and culture. Finishing the Task lists the Liujia as “unengaged.” This means they don’t know of any Christians among them, any missionaries seeking to reach them, or any churches adopting them. The Liujia practice Chinese folk religion, a complex mix of Buddhism, Taoism and ancestor veneration. There are no Christian resources in the Liujia language.

Many Liujia speak Mandarin Chinese, the official language of China, which is spoken by more people than any other language in the world. The Bible is translated into this language. Other resources in Mandarin include the JESUS Film, audio gospel messages from Global Recordings Network (GRN), and radio broadcasts. However, because the people feel sidelined by the Chinese, using Mandarin is not the best approach to evangelize them.

*Pray that a team from GRN will be able to make recordings of the gospel message in the heart language of the Liujia people. Ask the Lord of the harvest to thrust forth laborers to the Liujia so they can begin the process of making disciples of Christ among them.—AS*

## EZ 34:16, NIV

I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

*Make this your prayer for the lost Liujia people today.*

## AI-CHAM (EYE-CHUM) PEOPLE

**PS 82:5, NIV**

The 'gods' know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

*Pray that the Ai-Cham people will soon understand that the gods they worship only offer more darkness, and that they must flee to the light of Jesus.*

To give his people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God...to shine upon those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1:77, 78

Do you remember what it was like when you knew you would die one day, but didn't know what would happen to you afterwards? Have you ever been in a deep, dark cave with no light source, experiencing darkness so intense you could touch it, feel it clinging to you?

The 3,000 Ai-Cham people sit in that kind of darkness. There is no one within their community to tell them the truth, that almighty God, who is light, loves them, and has provided the only way out of their darkness through the death of his son, Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for their sins. Instead they worship a multiplicity of gods, spirit beings, and ancestors for whom plates of food are offered several times a year for the souls of their deceased family members. These people are unreached, unengaged, and without a gospel witness. Few have any knowledge of their Savior.

*Pray that audio and visual gospel resources will find their way into the homes of this needy people group. Pray that the Holy Spirit will pull down the strongholds that bind these people. Pray for a church planting movement to flourish in their communities.—KH*

## RAO (RAOW) PEOPLE

Where would you be today if you had never heard of the gospel of Jesus Christ? Jesus said in John 8:12b (NIV), “I am the light of the world. Whoever who follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” We would be stumbling in darkness just as the Rao people are presently doing.

The Rao live in small to medium sized villages. The inhabitants of each village have the same family name, and they marry within their clan. They are hard-working small farmers.

The animistic spiritual beliefs of the Rao were suppressed by the Chinese government during the late 1960s. Today the Rao are given more freedom to practice their ethnic religion. They hold a festival every November that enhances their cultural identity.

Guizhou Province, home of the Rao people, has the fewest medical workers per capita than any Chinese province. Even by Chinese standards, the Rao have a low standard of living.

*Pray the Lord would send Christian medical workers to help the Rao. Pray that Christian business people will be led to live with the Rao and help them economically. The New Testament is available in the Rao language; pray the Lord uses the New Testament to bring many Rao to himself. Pray that God uses oral ministries to allow the many Rao who cannot read to hear and respond to the gospel. Pray a growing, Bible believing church is planted in each Rao village.—DK*

### ROM 10:14, NET

How are they to call on one they have not believed in? And how are they to believe in one they have not heard of? And how are they to hear without someone preaching to them?

*As far as we know, most of the Rao people of southwestern China have never known a true believer in Jesus Christ. Pray the Lord sends workers to the Rao villages of Guizhou Province so that the Rao people may have the opportunity to hear the gospel and be saved.*

## QANU (GA-NOO) PEOPLE

## GAL 3:14, NKJV

... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

*Pray that the blessings of Abraham and his seed will soon be extended to the Qanu people.*

To the locals, the Qanu people are sometimes known as the “Miao with Combs in Their Hair.” Included yet different, the Qanu people are considered part of the Miao cluster of people groups, though they have their own distinct ethnic identity. These people are primarily agricultural, with some families raising livestock as well. They have no written language. This has caused much anguish amongst the Qanu for quite some time.

The Qanu are animists, worshiping the spirits that inhabit the world. Of particular note is the spirit of water, which is held in great fear by the Qanu.

Though there were Protestant missionaries in the area prior to the rise of communism, few worked in the particular region inhabited by the Qanu. These missionaries are remembered well by the general public as servants, self-sacrificing, and laboring with the love of God. The communist authorities, however, paint them as imperialists spreading propaganda to spread dissension, with the intent to exploit the people.

*Pray that the Qanu people would encounter the love of the Father through indigenous missionaries and evangelists. Pray that they would be open to receiving the good news of the kingdom of God, and to trade their fear of the spirits for the love and peace of Christ. Pray that communism would be unable to keep the gospel quiet, and that Christ's light would shine brightly in the darkness.—BK*



## XI (SHEE) PEOPLE OF CHINA

Denied official recognition as a minority in the 1950s, included in a list of undetermined minorities in the 1980s, the Xi are a small, though unique people group. Though there are less than 1,800 Xi in the heart of China, they are entirely different from all their neighbors in terms of history, language, and customs. The Xi believe their origins to be in the Gansu or Shaanxi Province. Today, the most closely related people is the Ga Mong. Both were considered a part of the Miao nationality, but were recently reclassified as Xi for political reasons.

Until recently, the Xi women would regularly wear beautiful traditional clothing, though it is now reserved for special occasions. The Xi are open to intermarriage with the Ge, Miao, or Han. When they marry within their own people, they must marry those from other villages.

Though the Xi were presented with the gospel by a group of Chinese Christians in 1998, they were unwilling to accept the message brought to them. Unable to recognize a difference between the Christian missionaries and those of an indigenous cult, they were not willing to receive the gospel message. They retained their animistic ways.

*Pray that the Xi people would encounter the true power and love of the gospel of the kingdom of God. Pray that their eyes would be opened, that they would be able to see truly, and that they would receive freedom from spiritual bondage.—BK*

### PROV 1:5, NIV

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance...

*Pray for spiritual discernment for the Xi people as they try to distinguish between the truth of the gospel and the lies of local cults.*

## DA HEI NEISU (DA-HAY-NAY-SOO) PEOPLE

### ROM 6:11, NKJV

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Pray for the Da Hei Neisu people to become dead to sin, and alive to Christ.*

PC Asia Outreach



*(This story illustrated aspects of this people group's culture.)*

The young man entered the room, staring fiercely at his restrained wife. Sweating profusely, the young woman moaned and twitched as she pulled her wrist, which was tied by a string to the bedpost. Behind the young man followed an older man, a shaman, decorated extravagantly and also wearing a fierce expression. The shaman would determine if this woman's spirit needed to be called back into her body.

Hundreds of years ago, a Da Hei Neisu man with a captive would have been a typical slave owner. Commonly called Da Hei Yi (Big Black Yi) by the Chinese, they call themselves Neisu or Nasu, meaning "black people." On the top social tier of the various Yi peoples, the Da Hei Neisu were society's landlords and slave owners, but have since changed their ways.

About 8,500 Da Hei Neisu people live in southern China, mainly in Yunnan Province. Their language is Wusa Nasu. They are a polytheistic (meaning they worship many gods), animistic people who know nothing of Jesus and everything about the occult. They are considered completely unreached with the gospel.

*Pray that the powerful influence of the occult will be replaced with the life-giving power of Jesus Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit will move in the lives of Chinese believers to motivate them to share the gospel with the Da Hei Neisu. Pray for a vibrant church to emerge among the Da Hei Neisu.—LR*

# XIAO HEI NEISU (SHAOW-HAY-NAY-SOO) PEOPLE

DAY

18

*(This story is intended to illustrate certain things about this people group.)*

The oozing organs of the sheep he just sacrificed lay before the shaman. Studying the bloody mess, the shaman wondered what he might say to benefit his people. He was supposed to tell the future by studying the organs. If only the gods could use words to tell him, he thought!

Today we focus on the social tier that falls below yesterday's group. They are called the Xiao Hei Neisu people. They identify themselves as part of the Neisu cluster, just like yesterday's group. Each of these groups are part of the arbitrary Yi peoples whom we prayed for a year ago in the *GPD*.

Around 9,600 of the Xiao Hei Neisu people live in southern China. We know very little about these specific groups, but we do know that they practice shamanism, so they put their faith in dangerous spirits instead of the Lord.

We know that a few Xiao Hei Neisu people put their faith in Jesus in 1998 after Chinese believers brought them the gospel. Yet only a little more than one in 1,000 have embraced Christ since then. However, an audio recording was produced for them in 1998 and still remains the best tool for reaching the pre-literate Xiao Hei Neisu people.

*Pray that Chinese believers will bring them these gospel recordings and begin the process of leading them to the one who gives life to the full. -LR*

**1 COR 5:7, NKJV**

Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

*Pray for the Xiao Hei Neisu people to accept Christ as their final sacrifice.*

## ALING (AH-LOO) PEOPLE

## 2 COR 3:14, NKJV

But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ.

*Pray for the spiritual blindness of the Aling people will be removed when they hear the name of Jesus.*

*(This fictional account is intended to explain the beliefs of this people group).*

“**S**he is very sick,” the mother said, looking down at her young daughter with an expression of grave concern. She touched the girl’s damp forehead again with her hand, then wiped it with a wet cloth. “She’s burning up. We have done something to displease the gods. They are angry with us.”

“I will call the shaman,” the father said somberly. “She will drive away this evil.”

Before he could leave the room, the oldest son suggested, “Why don’t we get the man who came from the city.”

The father and mother both looked at him with a combination of curiosity and disapproval.

“He says that we can pray to someone named Jesus and this Jesus will answer us.” The mother turned away, shaking her head, and began to dab at her daughter’s forehead with the cloth.

The father glared at his son for a moment before saying, “I’ll get the shaman.”

According to research, there are no followers of Christ among the Aling people of China. They have stubbornly resisted the gospel. The Bible is not available in their language, and despite calls to action among ministry agencies, few missionaries have even tried to preach the good news to them. Imagine how this must grieve God’s heart!

*Pray for laborers to be sent into this waiting harvest field, both missionaries and Bible translators. Pray for the hearts of the Aling to be softened and prepared for the message of salvation in Christ.—CL*

# WOPU (WOH-POO) PEOPLE

*(This fictional account is intended to explain the beliefs of this people group.)*

“My turn!” the twin girls chimed in unison. Their father shook his head. “It is your brother’s turn.” “It’s not fair,” one of the twins complained, bottom lip thrust out. Ignoring this, the father lit a long match and handed it to his son. The boy accepted it with wide eyes and clumsily began trying to light the candle on the small altar.

The Wopu people are careful to regularly sacrifice to their ancestors. They believe that deceased family members have the power to protect them and the ability to bring good fortune. They also believe in a kitchen god that lives in the fire pit which is located in the center of every home. This spirit must be kept happy with various gifts and sacrifices in order to ensure success for the home and family.

While these beliefs might seem strange to some Westerners, the Wopu people do not know a different way. Animism and ancestor worship has been part of their way of life for centuries. The Bible is not available in their Wusa Nasu language. The Wopu do not have an audio Bible or the JESUS Film.

*Ask the Lord to break down any barriers keeping the Wopu people from receiving Christ. Pray for his kingdom to be established among them.—CL*

DAY

20

**PS. 40:4, NKJV**

Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust, and does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

*Pray for the Wopu people to put their complete trust in the Lord.*

## XINGPING LALU (SHIN-PING-LAH-LOO) PEOPLE

### EPH 1:3, NKJV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...

*Pray that the Xingping people will soon accept the blessings in Christ, and forsake all other possible "suitors."*

PC Asia Outreach



“This is American Idol Chinese style,” thought the visitor from America, as he watched the young men and women sing. Each contestant took turns singing a song. All of the competitors were members of the Xingping Lahu people group. The two winners

were declared the most eligible for marriage.

The Xingping Lahu people have lived in China’s Yunnan Province for as long as anyone can remember. Singing is this people group’s favorite activity. From centuries past traditional songs have been handed down from one generation to the next. And the winner will make the best husband... so they think.

This people group worships many gods and spirits. The Xingping Lahu live in fear of ghosts. The neighboring Hongjin Tai people group has taken the message of salvation to this people group and have won 150 to become part of the bride of Christ. But 99 percent of the Xingping Lahu have yet to accept Christ as lord.

*Pray that the Bible will be translated into the Xingping Lahu language. Ask God to lead a mission agency to target the Xingping Lahu for outreach. Pray that the 150 Xingping Lahu followers of Jesus Christ will mature spiritually, and take his ways to their families and neighbors. Pray that they will disciple their people in the ways of Jesus Christ.—WK*

## LONGJIA (LONG-JEEAH) PEOPLE



*(This article is intended to describe the lifestyle of this people group).*

The visitor from El Salvador watched the Longjia men surround a bull in a wooden enclosure. When the bull chased one man, another would jab it with a spear. This looked very different from what he'd seen in Latin America. The bull fight ended with the bull being killed. Then a priest entered the enclosure and chanted a prayer

over the body of the dead bull. This priest represented the traditional animistic beliefs of the Longjia people.

The Longjia people group lives in China's Guizhou and Yunnan Provinces. They worship nature spirits. Each year this people group kills a sacred bull to appease these spirits. The Longjia believe that the killing of the sacred bull will insure adequate rain and good harvests. There are no known followers of Jesus Christ among this people group, despite the fact that many of their neighbors have many followers of Jesus Christ among them.

*Ask God to raise up faithful workers who will take the message of salvation to the Longjia. The neighboring Han, Miao, and Bouyei people groups have been reached for the Lord. Ask God to lead the churches within these people groups to reach out to their Longjia neighbors and help them establish a church planting movement of their own.—WK*

### ROM 8:2, NKJV

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

*Pray that the Longjia people will soon seek and find freedom from blood sacrifices that have been paid for by Christ.*

## MICHA (MEE-CHEE) PEOPLE

### ROM 3:24, NKJV

... being justified freely  
by his grace through the  
redemption that is in Christ  
Jesus,...

*Pray that the Micha people  
will put off all other religions,  
and embrace a relationship  
with the only one who can  
offer grace and redemption.*

So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows: “Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way...” Acts 17:22, NLT

China’s Micha people practice various religious beliefs adopted from their neighbors, including Daoism, Buddhism, and ancestor worship. Polytheistic beliefs have largely diminished among them, though their elderly still worship different spirits, including the village spirit believed to live in the biggest tree near their community.

The 32,000 Micha people live in southern China’s Yunnan Province. Today, most Micha work hard in agriculture, and they prefer to keep to themselves in their mountain community. However, many young Michas move to towns and cities to make more money, returning home for special occasions and festivals.

Despite the small presence of Three-Self Churches (government-approved) in their region, along with some Catholic influence, the unreached Micha are a relatively small and isolated people without a witness. There is no Bible translation in their language, Mique. However, there is audio Bible teaching in Mique through Global Recordings Network (GRN).

*Pray that Chinese believers reach out to and intercede for the Micha people. Ask God to prepare Micha hearts, bringing his word to them in their own language. Pray they listen to GRN teaching and that God’s Spirit penetrates the darkness of false religions, drawing the Micha to their true redeemer. May there soon be a disciple making movement among the Micha people that will transform their community into Christ’s likeness.—CR*



## APU (AH-POO) PEOPLE

Numbering 3200 people, the Apu have only been “discovered” by outsiders in recent years, and little is known about them. Like the Micha for whom we prayed yesterday, the Apu are a small, isolated people group living in China’s Yunnan Province.

The Apu are counted as one of the 120 Yi peoples of China. The large number of Yi groups resulted from war, migrations, and slavery’s threat over centuries. Such conflict led small groups like the Apu to leave their homes and move to calmer places. With numerous years of isolation, the Apu people and others like them have developed an identity, dialect, and customs of their own.

The Apu worship many spirits believed to control life in their communities, including the dragon god who is greatly honored among them. Apu people are dominated by alcoholism and sexual immorality. With no known Christian witness, the Apu are considered not only unreached but unengaged, meaning that there are no believers reaching out to them. Their language, Eastern Nisu, includes no Bible translation, though there is GRN audio Bible teaching in this language.

The Apu live in Jinping County. Many from other people groups living in the same county have come to Christ through gospel radio broadcasts in their mother tongues.

*Pray for Eastern Nisu broadcasts to reach the Apu. Ask for intercessors and missionaries to be raised up in Jinping County and elsewhere for the Apu. Pray freedom through Christ and a harvest of souls for China’s Apu people.—CR*

### COLOSSIANS 1:13, TPT

He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom-realm of his beloved son.

*Pray that soon the Apu people will be delivered from Satan’s tyrannical rule, and transferred to the King of kings.*

## AZONG (AH-ZONG) PEOPLE

2 COR 5:19, NKJV

... that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

*Pray that soon many from the Azong people will be reconciled to Christ.*

PC Asia Harvest



Azong girls

*(This story illustrates aspects of the culture of the people group.)*

Grandfather was dead. Deshi, the eldest son, was responsible for the funeral arrangements. Sadly for Deshi's people, the Azong, the Chinese central government had recently banned burial, mandating cremation instead. If Deshi had his way, he would bury grandfather with silver in his mouth. The money would provide for grandfather's needs in the afterworld. Deshi would write grandfather's name on a wooden tablet. This he would have to do using the blood from his own finger. When he was a child, this practice always sent shivers down Deshi's spine, but now that he was an adult, he no longer shied away from the bloody task. Deshi would pass on the wooden name tablet to his son and grandson. Three generations would use Grandfather's tablet in ancestral rites. Deshi's grandson would be the one responsible for eventually burning grandfather's tablet.

The Azong people practice ancestor worship mixed with animism. There are only 1,300 Azong, and they live only in China. There are no known followers of Christ among them. There are no portions of the Bible in their language.

*Please pray for the resources to reach out to these people. Pray that the Azong people will come to know the God who offers them much more than silver in the afterlife. Pray that both the men and the women in Azong communities will be disciplined in the ways of Christ.—CMW*

## POPEI (POH-PAY) PEOPLE



PC Asia Harvest

A Popoi woman

If you have been praying through the *GPD* for many years, you will have noticed that we pay close attention to Yunnan Province, which has by far the highest number of unreached people groups. This province attracts many tourists to its spectacular

natural scenery—rivers, lakes, gorges, and snow-capped mountains. This province boasts over 18,000 plant species.

Tucked away in the high mountains of Yunnan live the Popoi people. They inhabit one of the least evangelized regions in the most unreached province of China! They are hidden away by mountains and rivers. Until recently, access was possible only by foot or on horseback, but roads now connect the Popoi to the outside world.

The Popoi number about 6,000 and they live exclusively in China. They are also known by their Chinese name, “Shui Yi” or “Water Yi.” They observe traditional festivals such as the Garment Contest Festival. They also celebrate a Get-Together of Princes Festival, in which they create an edible “prince” which they bake and eat. The Popoi speak Lolopo, but no Scripture is available in Lolopo, and no believers are known among the Popoi.

*Please pray for God to give the Popoi a curiosity about the One who created their snow-capped mountains. Ask God to give these people a hunger for the sunshine of his love.—CMW*

### EPH 2:10, NKJV

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

*Thank the Lord that he created you to do good works for His glory, not in “exchange” for salvation. Thank him for the privilege of giving you the good works of praying for people like the Popoi who have no chance for eternal life apart from Christ.*

## TALU (TAH-LOO) PEOPLE

## EPH 2:6, NKJV

... and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,...

*Pray for the Talu people to soon seek the one who can give them a seat in heavenly places.*

PC Asia Outreach



A Talu baby boy

What do you do when you get sick? Do you stay home to recover? The Talu people do this, but there is an added twist to how it happens. When a Talu person becomes ill, the people believe it to be demonic possession, so they leave them locked in a room until the illness passes.

These people do not have a set religion, but they put their faith in their own rituals which they have had for centuries.

With a population of roughly 15,000, the Talu people lack any presence of followers of Christ among them. Very few people groups in China lack any evangelism the way this group does. Some of the challenges to reach this group are related to their language and location. It is unknown if they have a written record of their language, which makes it difficult to translate the gospel to their language. The Talu people are also located among the steep mountains of Yunnan Province. They are very different than the other peoples who have also been classified as part of the Yi cluster.

*Pray for ambassadors of Christ to take interest in this people group. May the Lord bring long term evangelists to this area to give them access to the gospel. Pray they would be welcoming to outsiders and receptive to the good news. Pray that soon there will be efforts to disciple the Talu people in the ways of Jesus Christ.—BO*

## XUZHANG LALU (SIN-ING-LAH-LOO)

Giggles filled the air when the Xuzhang Lalu girls saw the white handkerchief land near Jia's feet. Each of the four teenage girls looked at one another, but they paid special attention to Jia's reaction. Should she be coy and casual about picking it up? Should she let her enthusiasm show by smiling at Fang, the boy with exceptionally thick hair? Or should she let it stay on the ground? Beads of sweat were on the Fang's forehead as his smile became more tight. Finally, she casually lifted it with a dainty gesture of her wrist. Now this 14-year-old girl had a boyfriend for the first time. For the duration of the Flower Street Festival, her singing was especially joyous, especially when Fang was nearby.

The 5,200 Xuzhang Lalu people are officially part of the generic Yi cluster, but they have their own identity, language, and customs, according to *Operation China*. For example, when a relative dies, a close relative will strangle a bird, go to the home of the deceased, and put the dead bird near the head of the corpse as an offering. Such beliefs are indigenous; there seems to be no indication that they have borrowed ideas from Buddhists.

There are no known believers among them, and they have no Christian resources. Someone needs to tell them that there is a better way.

*Pray that the Xuzhang Lalu people will put their faith in Jesus Christ alone. Pray for workers to go to the Xuzhang Lalu people.—KC*

DAY

28

### GAL 5:6, NKJV

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

*Pray that soon the Xuzhang Lalu people will accept God's offer to be justified by faith in Christ alone.*

## ALU (AH-LUOH) PEOPLE

## EPH 5:18, NIV

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...

*Make this your prayer for the Alu people, who have allowed alcohol to keep them from the clarity of thought it would take to accept the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Lok was starting to feel the effects of the whiskey as he watched the other members of his village staggering, falling, and vomiting. It was festival time, and this was the way to celebrate. It was Lok's first time drinking whiskey. He had seen gentle people become violent, and mean people become friendly when they drank the stinking liquid.

The next morning, the high sun woke Lok, and he began to experience his first hangover. He closed his eyes tightly and put the palm of his hand over his forehead in a vain attempt to make the headache go away. He had already seen an uncle die from a liver disorder, and his aunt had fallen over a cliff while drunk. As an eight-year-old, Lok had no idea that not everyone lived like this.

The Alu people have allowed alcohol to shorten their lifespan. They live in a remote part of Yunnan Province where most people don't even speak Mandarin Chinese. They live very modestly in packed-dirt three-room homes. Two of the rooms are for sleeping and cooking. The main room is used for eating, general living, and worshipping the spirits.

*Pray that the Alu people will wake up from their spiritual stupor and flee to the One who offers life to the full. Pray that soon they will replace their worship of spirits with the joyful singing of praises to Jesus in their own language. Pray for them to share the story of his glory through music and drama.—KC*

## CHESU (CHEH-SOO) PEOPLE

**W**ould you ever consider worshipping a panther? The Chesu people of Yunnan Province do. For centuries, panthers and other dangerous wild animals terrorized them. They have two days of festivals where participants don panther costumes and mimic the movements of these beautiful felines. Their religion involves offering sacrifices to animal spirits; the panther, the bear, and the tiger. They believe the spirits of these animals can protect their communities from harm and disease.

There have been few feeble attempts to take the gospel to these 7,000 people, but these attempts have been in Mandarin Chinese. These remote people speak their own language, and have little contact with the people who speak Mandarin, China's trade language. As a result, there are only about 20 Chesu people who follow the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

*Pray for the Chesu people to seek, and find the God who created them and all they see around them. Pray for them to have thankful, joyful hearts when they hear of the Savior who came to free us from fear, sin, and death. Pray for them to learn the stories of Jesus and share them with their neighbors in culturally appropriate ways.—KC*

### LEV 26:22, NKJV

I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate.

*Pray that the curse of being at the mercy of wild animals will be lifted from the Chesu people, and that they will embrace the God who created all life.*

## BUYUAN JINUO (BOO-YOOAHN-JEE-NOR) PEOPLE

### EPH 2:7, NKJV

... that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

*Make this your prayer also for the unreached peoples of India as we begin to pray for them next month.*

Even the neighbors of the Buyuan Jinuo People sing, “The strongest animal in the forest is the rhinoceros, the bravest people on the mountain are the Jinuo!”

About 75 years ago, a local government officer collected a tax from the Buyuan Jinuo people, and died on the way home. Thinking that he had been poisoned by the Jinuo people, the government forces mobilized to attack Buyuan Jinuo villages. They were in for a surprise; the Jinuo had mobilized other nearby tribes to defend them. Though the Buyuan Jinuo ultimately lost the battle, they won the respect of their neighbors.

In this true account, we see two armies mobilized for a particular task. But we have not seen an army of Christ’s ambassadors mobilized to take the gospel to the Buyuan Jinuo people. There have been some workers, or there would not be any believers among this people group. This people group is about two percent Christian, which is higher than any people group we have prayed for this month.

*Will you pray today to see these few believers mobilized to take the gospel to every Buyuan Jinuo settlement, and beyond? Pray that there will soon be an army of Buyuan Jinuo people mobilized, not for war, but for taking the Name of Christ to their neighbors in Yunnan Province. Pray for massive mobilization to spread his fame to every people group in Yunnan Province, as we finish our month of prayer for China.—KC*



# ORDER FORM

## 1. **Keep it Coming!** .....

Please send me a subscription to the *Global Prayer Digest*.

One-Year Subscription				
Location	Price per subs 1-9 subs*	Price per subs 10+ subs*	# of Subs	\$ Amount
USA	\$18.00	\$10.00		
Canada/Mexico	\$24.00	\$14.00		
Overseas-airmail	\$36.00	\$30.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to donate to help with GPD printing, mailing, and other costs				
~ For orders of single copies or extras see contact info below. * To one address.			<b>Total</b>	

**GPD  
Subtotal**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. **Mail it!** to *Frontier Ventures-GPD, PO Box 433303, Palm Coast, FL 32143, USA* .....

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, payable to "Frontier Ventures-GPD"

Credit card. If paying by credit card please see other side.

**Grand Total**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Include payment in U.S. funds drawn on U.S. banks.
- We'll try to get it to you soon but allow 5-6 weeks for your subscription to begin.
- For information or address changes call 888-903-3322 or email us at [GPD@emailcustomerservice.com](mailto:GPD@emailcustomerservice.com). (For address changes, if you get voice mail, be sure to leave your old zip code and new address with your full name and phone number so we can keep your subscription coming.)

### Get the FREE email version!

1-- Go to [globalprayerdigest.org](http://globalprayerdigest.org)

2-- In the upper right side, under subscribe, enter your email and click submit

### Download PDF versions of *GPD* here:

<http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/>

Please check with credit card you are using: \_\_\_\_\_



Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If billing address is different than mailing address:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

## Why not give a gift subscription to a pastor or friend?

Please send a gift subscription of the **Global Prayer Digest** to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a gift subscription of the **Global Prayer Digest** to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a gift subscription of the **Global Prayer Digest** to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Global Prayer Digest

August 2017 • Frontier Ventures • 36:8



## PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF KASHMIR

- 3—If You Want Drugs, Ask a Police Officer
- 6—Kul Faqirs Meditating On the Wrong Things
- 7—The Best Jokers in India
- 20—A People of Physical and Military Power
- 24—Should Muslims Be Allowed to Make Guns?



Dear Praying Friends,

We haven't focused an entire month of prayer for Jammu and Kashmir since June, 1998. I have meant to have us pray for Jammu and Kashmir for years, but there are many needs in South Asia, so we have overlooked this relatively sparsely populated state. We will make up for that lapse by praying for the Muslims this month and the Buddhists and Hindus next month. Kashmir is predominantly Muslim, and Jammu is predominantly Hindu and Buddhist. Together they form the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Often we just call it Kashmir.

Much is the same as it was in 1998. India, Pakistan, and China have claimed portions of this land. There is a constant conflict between Muslim Pakistan and Hindu India over this Muslim-majority Indian state, and no solution will be acceptable to both sides. So the skirmishes go on and on. Therefore, our Bible verses will focus on peace. Each Bible verse will lead us into prayer for the peace that has eluded Jammu and Kashmir.

In Christ,

Keith Carey, editor-in-chief, *GPD*

[Keith.carey@frontierventures.org](mailto:Keith.carey@frontierventures.org)

August 2017

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104-2721  
888-903-3322 (from within the USA)  
386-246-0170 (outside the US,  
including Canada)  
[subscriptions@frontierventures.org](mailto:subscriptions@frontierventures.org)

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Keith Carey  
For comments on content call  
626-398-2241 or email  
[keith.carey@frontierventures.org](mailto:keith.carey@frontierventures.org)

## ASSISTANT EDITOR

Paula Fern

## WRITERS

Eugena Chou  
Patricia Depew  
Patti Ediger  
Karen Hightower  
Wesley Kawato  
Ben Klett  
David Kugel  
Christopher Lane  
William Mason  
Bianca Ontiveros  
Ted Proffitt  
Cory Raynham  
Lydia Reynolds  
Jean Smith  
Allan Starling  
Chun Mei Wilson

## DAILY BIBLE COMMENTARIES

Keith Carey  
Robert Rutz

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Lois Carey  
Rachel Wearden

## GRAPHICS

Matt Anderson

## PRINTER

Yuli Color Reproduction Co., LTD.  
(Taiwan)

## WEB SITE

[www.globalprayerdigest.org](http://www.globalprayerdigest.org)

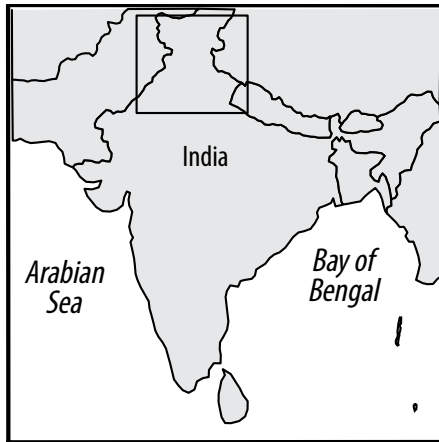
[www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/](http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/)

ISSN 1045-9731  
Contents of the **Global Prayer Digest** © 2017  
Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104

Contents of this booklet may be reproduced if appropriate credit and subscription information are given.

## PRAY FOR

*A Disciple Making Movement Among Every  
Muslim People in Jammu and Kashmir*



# WHY PEACE ELUDES INDIA'S ONLY MUSLIM-MAJORITY STATE



There are states in India with a Christian majority, but only one has a Muslim majority: Jammu and Kashmir. Over 75 percent of the population is Muslim in Kashmir, the eastern half of this complex state. There is a large Hindu and Buddhist minority in the Jammu region of the state, and we will pray for those peoples next month. Some strange twists of history caused

Kashmir to become part of Hindu India and not Muslim Pakistan. More on this later. But first, let's take a look at how history made Kashmir what it is today.

## Islam Moves into Kashmir Though Persuasion and Conquest

Prior to 1300 A.D. Kashmir was totally Hindu and Buddhist. During the early 1300s the ruler, Babul Shah, a Muslim missionary, brought Islam to Kashmir. One of his first converts was Rajah Rincan, the ruler of Kashmir. Rincan was impressed by the simplicity of Babul Shah's message. When a leader changes religion, often his followers do the same; more conversions soon followed. Many early

---

## WHY PEACE ELUDES INDIA'S ONLY MUSLIM-MAJORITY STATE

---

converts were low caste Hindus trying to break free of caste restrictions. They hoped Islam would free them from their caste.

In 1349 Shah Mir, an Iranian prince, conquered Kashmir. Forced conversions became the rule. Kashmir's new ruler was a zealot who dreamed of turning his realm into an all Muslim state. He ruled with an iron fist.

In 1540 the Mughal Dynasty drove out the descendants of Shah Mir from Kashmir. The Mughals proved to be just as intolerant as the previous dynasty. Some Mughal rulers engaged in the systematic destruction of Hindu temples. Often Hindus had to choose between conversion or death. Some converted and others died. Many more fled to other regions. Over time Kashmir developed a Muslim majority. The regions to the south had a Hindu majority, and they still do today.



By 1820 the British had destroyed the Mughal Empire and took control of much of what is now India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Before that time Kashmir didn't have a unified government, so they were vulnerable to political chaos. In 1820, after the British took control, they sold part of Kashmir to the wealthy Hindu Dogra family. In 1858 that family bought control of the rest of Kashmir. That's how a Hindu royal family came to rule a state with a majority Muslim population.

---

## WHY PEACE ELUDES INDIA'S ONLY MUSLIM-MAJORITY STATE

---

The Dogra family turned out to be bad news for Kashmir's Muslims. These Hindu rulers of Kashmir were zealots who persecuted Muslims. This persecution lasted for about 100 years, from about 1820 to 1920. Many Muslims fled from Kashmir during that time. Shortly after 1920 the next ruler of Kashmir turned out to be a moderate Hindu, who ended the persecution. But the seeds of bitterness and communal conflict remained.

### Independence Brings New Challenges to Kashmir

By the time India gained independence in 1947, Kashmir was 77 percent Muslim and 20 percent Hindu. Hari Singh, a Hindu, ruled Kashmir at that time. He wanted to declare allegiance to India but realized most of his subjects wanted to be part of Pakistan. Singh agreed to a temporary

union with India with an understanding that a referendum would be held at a future date.

The referendum was never held. The government of India saw to it that only one party could run candidates for Kashmir's parliament. That party was pro-India and killed all attempts to hold a referendum. India wasn't going to let Kashmir vote to join Pakistan.

Pakistan resented the political tricks India had used to retain control of Kashmir. These political tensions led to war in 1965. Pakistan allied with China, and both countries invaded Kashmir. India lost a large part of Kashmir to Pakistan and China. After a few weeks, a cease fire ended the war. But no peace treaty was ever signed. Consequently, there is still a low-level war in Kashmir. India had sent 500,000 troops to Kashmir to stop the Pakistani fighters. Indian forces are still in Kashmir today. For many years these troops kept an uneasy peace, but in 1987 a new round of trouble began. That year Indian secret agents rigged





---

## WHY PEACE ELUDES INDIA'S ONLY MUSLIM-MAJORITY STATE

---

an election to insure Kashmir's next governor would be pro-India. The resulting protests were crushed with military force.

The rigged election caused many Islamic rebel groups to form. These groups resorted to terrorism. Since 1987 thousands of people have been killed in terrorist attacks. Schools are a favorite target of the rebels; many of the dead are teachers and students.

### **There Are No Easy Answers in Kashmir**

There are no easy solutions in Kashmir. Removing Indian troops from the state won't bring peace because some rebel groups want independence and others want a union with Pakistan. They would fight one another. Independence also won't bring peace because the pro-independence rebel groups are divided. Some want to create a secular republic and others want an Islamic republic. A union with Pakistan won't work because some rebel groups want nothing to do with Pakistan. All options would probably lead to more fighting.

The only hope for peace in Kashmir is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. The cycle of bitterness has to end. Muslims persecuted Hindus when they were in power and Hindus have persecuted Muslims when they gained power. Only the transforming love of Jesus Christ can create peace between people groups that need to learn how to forgive each other.

Followers of Jesus Christ are few and far between in Kashmir. Only the power of prayer will break the wall of unbelief that Satan has placed around this region.

### **Let's Pray for Kashmiri Muslims!**

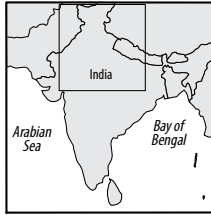
- Pray for hearts to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit in Kashmir.
- Pray for fellowships of believers among the Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists that will demonstrate that peace and forgiveness are available to those who submit to Jesus Christ.
- Pray for disciple making movements to become common throughout Jammu and Kashmir.

## PRAY FOR PEACE IN KASHMIR

### ISAIAH 2:4, NLT

The LORD will ... settle international disputes ... Nation will no longer fight against nation ...

*Make this your prayer for Kashmir this month.*



One of the first things you think of when Kashmir is mentioned is ongoing armed conflict. The people of Kashmir have been entrapped by political and religious agendas for many decades, and peace has eluded them this entire time. Human wisdom has failed the peoples. The deep wounds between Pakistan and India cry out for spiritual healing. The leaders of these nations

need divine inspiration to do what is right. But both sides cannot stop the tensions without losing face, so the conflict can never end. There are ongoing skirmishes, terrorist activities, and persecution. There is a huge placement of Indian military personnel, taking soldiers away from their families. Many do not return alive.

*Pray for the Holy Spirit to move the hearts of the Indian and Pakistani leaders to allow for peace in this beautiful land. Pray for a new season of freedom and peace where the gospel can be preached in Kashmir. Pray for his word to go forth in Kashmir without restraint. Pray for the peoples of Kashmir to be released from spiritual and physical oppression. Pray for the Lord to raise up ministries from within India that will establish work among the soldiers in Kashmir.—PD*

## PROTECTION FOR KASHMIRIS

*(There are only a small number of followers of Christ in Kashmir, and they frequently face persecution. This fictitious story illustrates the kinds of things that happen in Kashmir.)*

“C onverting to Christianity is a serious and dangerous thing for Lakia to do. Why risk your life and the lives of your children?” Lakia, a widow living in Kashmir with her three daughters,

responded to the words of a Muslim neighbor. “I asked several of the Muslim leaders at the mosque for help and they would not help me. They just told me to pray to Allah and be a good Muslim woman. When I asked the Christians for help, they offered me food and gave me small jobs so I could provide for my daughters. They comforted me when I told them that my only son, Abjul, had been shot and killed for stealing bread. They told me about Jesus and how He taught that people should help each other. He said, ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest (Matt.11:28).’ I never learned such things when I went to the mosque. Jesus comforts us like no one else can. I will always follow him no matter what people do to stop me.”

*Pray for God’s protection for Christian believers. May they grow in faith and become strong witnesses that can lead the majority of Muslims and Hindus in Kashmir to the Living Lord!—PD*

### MATT 11:28-30, NET

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke on you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and my load is not hard to carry.

*Pray for this kind of peace to permeate the hearts of those victimized by strife in Jammu and Kashmir.*



Create International

## DRUG ABUSE IN KASHMIR

### PHIL 4:6-7, NET

Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, in every situation, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God. And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*Pray for God-centered inner peace to come to those in Kashmir who are enslaved to drugs.*

*(This fictitious story illustrates the kinds of things that can happen in Kashmir.)*

The Kashmiri teenage girls used the last of the heroin, and planned to get more. That would be easy; they would just need to call the police.

Today we are praying for the 70,000 drug addicts of Kashmir. A government official told the Kashmir Observer that many drug addicts become entrapped by law enforcement personnel who are developing their market for drugs rather than arresting criminals. They specifically target students; more than 70 percent of the addicts are between ages 18-35.

Of the 70,000 drug addicts, more than 22,000 are females. “Women tend to fall easily to drugs because of easy availability...,” quoted the *Observer* “... they use glue, fevicol [another type of adhesive], polish, thinners, cannabis, and opiates. Some of them use sleeping pills and other sedative drugs.”

Why are the people of Kashmir vulnerable to mind altering drugs? Many are traumatized by years of political conflict, when they or their family were injured during protests and violent conflicts. Drug abuse mirrors the increase in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and suicide. Every family is reported to have at least one addict. Kashmir is desperately in need of the hope of Christ.

*Ask him to raise up excellent Christian drug rehab programs.—LR*

*<https://kashmirobsver.net/2016/local-news/70000-drug-addicts-kashmir-over-22000-are-females-3052>*

# MUSLIM WOMEN IN KASHMIR



Create International

**D**espite the beauty of Kashmir's scenery, the lives of its people are shrouded with insecurity and violence. None understand this better than Kashmiri women, who

have suffered the main brunt of the conflict over the Muslim-majority Kashmiri region for decades.

Since India, Pakistan, and China all have claims in Kashmir, conflicting factions have abused Kashmiri women as if they were weapons of war. "They have been raped, tortured, maimed, and killed. Kashmiri women are among the worst sufferers of sexual violence in the world," reported Doctors Without Borders (MSF).

The deterioration of the health care and education systems due to the war have further weakened women's empowerment. Women are not even safe at home. Up to 2,000 complaints of domestic violence are recorded annually. Women who have more education and earn more money often face trouble at home from jealous and abusive husbands. Many women suffer from severe depression. According to one report, 17,000 people, mostly women, have committed suicide during the last 20 years in the Kashmiri Valley.

*Pray for the Holy Spirit to move throughout Kashmir and change the hearts of many. Pray for effective discipling of the women of a gathering of Jesus followers in north India numbering in the tens of thousands. This gathering models biblical worship and fellowship patterns in an Indian context. Pray for many of these gatherings to spring up throughout Kashmir.—LR*

## GEN 16:13, NIV

She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the one who sees me."

*Pray for Kashmiri women to have eyes to see the Lord as he truly is.*



## WORK AMONG KASHMIRIS

**MATT 5:16, NET**

In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they can see your good deeds and give honor to your father in heaven.

*Pray that the good deeds of God's people in Kashmir will draw many to give thanks to the heavenly father.*

“**N**o one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly father.” (Matt. 5:16-17, NLT)

The peoples of Jammu and Kashmir that we will be praying for this month and next month are either Muslim (this month) or Buddhist and Hindu (next month). Few of them have had a chance to hear about the claims of Jesus or meet any of his followers. When Christ's followers do good deeds to help them in their difficult lives, how can they not be thankful?

There is an organization that helps Kashmiri women to make crafts like cushion covers, handbags, and mirrors. These products are sold in villages and trade fairs, and the money these women earn helps their households. This organization is also doing church planting in five districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

*Pray that this witness of Christ's love will become well known throughout Jammu and Kashmir. Pray that it will result in many women putting their faith in Jesus and giving thanks to the father. Pray that many of the women who work at this livelihood center will be so filled with Christ's love that it will affect their extended families.—KC*

## KUL FAQIR PEOPLE

In other parts of South Asia their name means “poverty,” but in Kashmir it means “tree.” What do they have to do with trees, you might ask. They are associated with meditating under trees, a practice which overlaps with Hindu mendicants. Mendicants devote their lives to spiritual matters and gain their living through begging. Thus, they are associated with poverty.

In most Indian states the Kul Faqirs speak the state trade language, be it Gujarati, Urdu, or in the case of Kashmir, they speak Kashmiri. They usually speak Pashtu as well, indicating that they have some contact with the Pushtun peoples of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

They are Muslims, though not good ones. Though they celebrate Muslim festivals, the Kul Faqirs also depend on amulets to cure their diseases. The spirit world is more real to them than Allah. Muslims support them through alms, and the Kul Faqirs devote their lives to prayer and meditation.

The Kul Faqir people listen to radio and watch television, so these provide ways to get the gospel message to them. They do not know that only Jesus Christ can provide for all their needs, and their amulets only invite the wrath of the one true God.

*Pray for believers to produce radio and television programs for the Kul Faqirs that point the way to Jesus. Pray that soon they will discard their old ways, and embrace the ways of the Lord. Pray for a disciple making movement to emerge among them.—KC*

### IS 26:3, NKJV

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

*Pray for the Kul Faqirs to find perfect peace by meditating on and encountering the True God.*

## BHAND PEOPLE

## JOHN 14:17, NKJV

... the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor has known him; but you know him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

*Remember in Isaiah 9:6 the baby Jesus was given the four names of God, including wonderful counselor? Well, here is The Holy Spirit walking the earth in the person of Jesus, "for he dwells with you", anticipating Pentecost, "and shall be in you." Pray for the Bhand people to recognize God's Holy Spirit in the person of his messengers and desire him to live in them.*

If you saw the Disney movie, *Finding Nemo*, you probably recall Nemo's father often being asked to tell jokes. The other sea creatures in that animated story expected him to be funny because he was a clown fish.

Imagine being part of a people group that is renowned for providing entertaining comic performances. That's the case with the Bhand (their name is Sanskrit for "jester") who actually perform humorous dramas for Islamic holy days and other special occasions. In this role—acting, dancing, storytelling, clowning, and doing impressions—they have been likened to the court jesters of medieval Europe.

The Bhand live in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nepal. The largest concentration, however, reside in Kashmir where they are famous for their Bhand Pather performances.

Most of the Bhand are Sunni Muslims. Though they are skilled communicators, mission groups have seldom attempted to communicate the gospel to them in written, audio, or video formats. The Bhand remain almost completely unevangelized and unreached.

*Pray for the Bhand to have the opportunity to experience the power and drama of God's amazing love, as expressed through his only son, Jesus. Pray for the Lord to stir the hearts of missionaries to go to the Bhand and share the gospel message in creative ways. Ask the Lord to speak to these "jesters" and draw them into a relationship with Christ. Pray that there will soon come a day when the Lord uses the Bhand people to spread the gospel in Kashmir.—CL*



# BHAT PEOPLE

DAY

08

Like the Bhand people, the Bhat were traditionally court performers. But instead of giving dramatic performances like the Bhand, the Bhat recited poetry, often in a very high, sing-song voice. Today, they continue the practice of *phakras* which are poetic speech used to praise others.

Despite being a very creative people group, the Bhat have tended to adopt the religion of those they have served. For some that means following Islam. For others, it involves following Hinduism. Ancestor worship and the occult also continue to be practiced among the Bhat.

The Bible is available in their heart language of Urdu. The audio version can be accessed online, and the JESUS Film is also available in Urdu. Yet very few of the Bhat have encountered God, his word, or heard about the salvation available through his only son, Jesus Christ.

*Pray for the Lord to call mission groups to work specifically to reach the Bhat people group. Ask God to prepare the hearts of the Bhat people to receive the message of the gospel. Pray for many to respond in faith to God's invitation to forgiveness and salvation. Ask God to establish His church among the Bhat and use believers to reach members of other people groups. Pray for God's Kingdom to come to the Bhat people, and his will to be done among them.—CL*

## JOHN 17:18, RSV

As Thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

*Jesus was about 30 years old when He was baptized in water and filled with God's Spirit and started his ministry. (Luke 3:21-23) So if you went to Jesus' carpenter shop when He was age 28 asking Him to raise someone from the dead or heal you, it was not his time yet to do that. But now we, just like Jesus when he was baptized with the Holy Spirit, are ready to face the devil and everything he can throw at us as we are sent into the harvest.*

## DHALAMI FAQIRS IN KASHMIR

### PS 85:8, NET

I will listen to what God the LORD says. For he will make peace with his people, his faithful followers. Yet they must not return to their foolish ways.

*Pray for the Dhamali Faqirs to find peace with God and never turn to any saint or idol.*

*(This story is fictional and is intended to depict the lives of the Dhamali Faqir.)*

Two men beating large drums march onto the stage. Following them are men clothed in vibrant colors, ready to perform the Dhamali dance. They are clanging their wooden sticks and swords together as they dance to the drumbeats. They are offering their dance to gods hoping that their families and lives will be blessed.

These are not Hindus; these men are of the Sufi sect of Islam, and they practise this unique form of worship which originated in northern India. The many variations of the Dhamali dance tell a story. Historically, the dance was performed by Dhamali Faqir, the male followers of Saint Baba. Dhalami Faqir use the dance to express exaltation, anger, or happiness to Baba.

Though the dance has since been transformed into a cultural tradition, its roots are in worship of this saint. The Sufis who continue this tradition are considered the mystics of Islam. Many took a vow of poverty in honor of Baba's dedication to support the less fortunate. They lead simple lives and hold low paying, low status jobs such as making shoes.

*Ask the Lord to reveal true worship to the Dhalami Faqirs and their families. May they know a true relationship with Christ instead of sacrifice and idolatry. May there be evangelists that go to these Sufi Muslims in a way that connects with their culture and values.—BO*

# DHARHI PEOPLE

*Psalm 96:1, NIV Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.*

As one of the world's rapidly industrializing nations, India is moving up the global economic ladder. A heterogeneous blend of the first and the third world, many long-held traditions stand alongside the growing infrastructure.

One of these traditions is kept alive by an interesting group from the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, although some live further north in Jammu and Kashmir. They are called the Dharhi, a Muslim people that excel as singers. The Dharhi preserve their customs as much as possible, with many of their marriages taking place between cousins.

While they maintain their traditions of singing in their villages, many are day-laborers. The Dharhi people live among many other castes within these villages. Special councils look after the interests of the various communities and deal with social infractions.

*Pray that the Dharhi people would discover Jesus in the Qur'an and seek him out. Pray for dreams and visions that reveal Christ across caste lines, and that an inclusive community of believers would rise up. Pray for blessings and peace on the Dharhi people, and that they would become singers of God's praise in both Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, two of India's least reached states.—BK*

DAY

10

**PS 24:4-6, NET**

Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols, and never tell lies. They will receive the LORD's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior. Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, o God of Jacob.

*Pray that many from the Dharhi people will soon fit this description.*

## MIRASI PEOPLE

### 1 CHRON 22:9, NET

Look, you will have a son, who will be a peaceful man. I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side. Indeed, Solomon will be his name; I will give Israel peace and quiet during his reign.

*Pray for God to raise up leaders of peace and wisdom for India and Pakistan.*

A diverse people and a caste unto themselves, the Mirasis of northern India are comprised of Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims alike. Also called the Pakhwaji, they are a people known for singing and playing the timbrel, a tambourine-like instrument. In addition to being so diverse, the Mirasi live in a variety of locations including Kashmir.

In northern India the Mirasi entertain at fairs. In Uttar Pradesh many work as laborers. In Bihar and Rajasthan many are farmers who also sing songs at weddings. In Haryana most are laborers, and they also suffer exclusion due to their low status. In Delhi the Mirasis are hired by small businesses as musicians. In Punjab, they are genealogists. Those Mirasi in Pakistan are entertainers or farmers, but educated Mirasis can be found even in the government and the military. The one thing that ties these people together are their lineage; they are from families that have dedicated themselves through the generations to music, theater, and entertainment.

There are no known followers of Christ among the Mirasi peoples, be they from a Sikh, Hindu or Muslim background. This is especially true in Kashmir where the number of believers is very small.

*Pray that the Mirasi people of India would receive justice and mercy. Pray that dreams and visions would come to the Mirasi, leading them to Christ. Pray for a Holy Spirit revival that will affect the hearts of Mirasi people from Sikh, Hindu, and Muslim backgrounds.—BK*

# ARORA MUSLIMS IN KASHMIR

DAY

12

Imagine what it would be like to be one of only 600 in your people group. The Arora people in Kashmir are such a group. Imagine being afraid to tell your loved ones about your decision to turn away from time honored customs and religious traditions for fear of being driven away from your home, or much worse.

*Operation World* notes that Kashmir, as an integral part of India, has endured tragic suffering and strife dating back centuries, particularly since the partition of India in 1947 when Pakistan and India warred over Kashmir. The Hindu rulers of the predominantly Muslim state joined India, creating India's only Muslim majority state.

The Arora community has risen to heights of influence and affluence in India. One of India's recent prime ministers is from the Arora community, but he was a Sikh. Most members of the Arora community are Sikhs or Hindus, though there are a few Muslims among them. There are no known believers among Arora Muslims, although increasing numbers are coming to faith among certain other Muslim groups in Kashmir. Those who become believers must make difficult choices.

The complete Bible is available in the Urdu language primarily spoken among the Muslim Arora people. Also there are radio broadcasts several times each week in Kashmiri, gospel recordings exist, and the JESUS Film and other visuals are available.

*Pray that Islamist extremism may cause Muslims to seek an alternative life, and that they will be led by the Holy Spirit of God to their savior.—KH*

## ROM 8:6, NET

For the outlook of the flesh is death, but the outlook of the Spirit is life and peace . . .

*Pray for the Arora people, be they Sikh, Hindu, or Muslim, to find the life and peace offered by the Holy Spirit.*

## PURIG-PA IN KASHMIR

## JN 14:27, NET

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; I do not give it to you as the world does. Do not let your hearts be distressed or lacking in courage.

*Pray that these precious people will soon know that true peace can only be found through Jesus.*

Since the creation of the world his invisible attributes, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:20 NASB

The Purig-Pa are a small almost unreachable and unengaged people group of 46,000 concentrated in Kashmir. They are surrounded by some of the most beautiful mountains and countryside in the world. They are almost 100 percent Muslim with few believers among them. Most Purig-Pa people are either small farmers or nomadic shepherds. They live either in village clusters or in single dwellings. The nomads live in tents and travel with their herds. Others are private landowners or craftsmen.

*Operation World* notes that increasing numbers of Purig-Pa people and other smaller Muslim groups are coming to faith in Jesus Christ; they range in numbers from fewer than 100 in 2001 to more than 1,000 in 2010. Those who receive their savior as their sin-bearer face many dangers. Resources are available in the Purik language: the Bible, the JESUS Film, gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts.

*Pray that these people will ask the important question, "Who made these beautiful mountains?" and recognize the holiness and righteousness of the creator. Pray that Islamist extremism may cause Muslims to seek an alternative way to God, and find it in Jesus. Ask him to raise up strong local churches and disciple making movements.—KH*

# THE MUGHAL PEOPLE

DAY

14



Create International

What if your ancestry included royalty who ruled the land for over four centuries? The Mughals claim to be descendants of Babar who conquered northern India in 1526. The Mughal emperors did rule over much of India for over 400 years. The great majority

of the Mughal people today live in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India. Many of them also live in northern India near the Nepalese border, though some live in Kashmir. Their main language is Urdu.

Those who live in the country are usually farmers. In cities Mughals engage in trade, handicrafts, and carpet weaving. Some live in poverty.

As far as we know, Mughals are 100 percent Muslims, both Sunni and Shi'ite. They marry within their clans. They adhere to sharia law with respect to marriage, divorce, remarriage, and the inheritance of property. Most Mughals have never heard a clear presentation of the gospel in their cultural context.

*Pray that the Lord sends workers to befriend the Mughals and share the good news of Christ with them. Pray for a hunger among the Mughals for the bread of life. Pray for the Lord to send them dreams of Jesus. May the Lord bring many Mughals to himself and start churches among them. Pray for the protection and growth of new Mughal believers.—DK*

## DEUT 8:3, NET

Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

*Pray that the Mughals would begin to desire the true spiritual bread of life, Jesus Christ.*

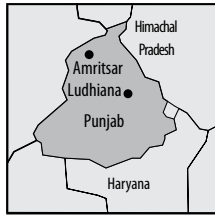
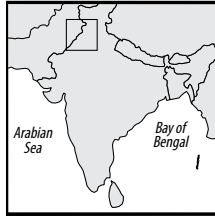
## MUSLIM TARKHAN PEOPLE

## EPH 6:11, 18

Put on the full armor of God... And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

The Muslim Tarkhans of India have always been excellent soldiers.

*Pray they would put on the true armor of God. Pray that they would begin to seek and find the God of the angel armies of heaven.*



Today we are praying for a people group that has served in the finest commando units of the Indian Army and as fighter pilots. Their brave actions have been captured in Bollywood films about the Indian-Pakistani War of 1971. They are among the best educated and wealthiest groups in Punjab State. They speak Punjabi, but many live in Kashmir. They are the Tarkhan people.

In the days of the great Mongolian Empire of the 1200s, a “tarkhan” was a general or governor over a province. Later on the meaning changed to mean “carpenter” or “craftsmen” when they began to practice those trades. Tarkhan occupations today include carpentry, construction, land owning, farming, politics, entertainment, science, medicine, and the military.

Today the Tarkhans are Sikhs, Hindus, or Sunni Muslims. They marry within their clan. There are no known followers of Christ among the Tarkhans.

*Pray that the Lord would send workers to live among them and display the fragrance of Christ. Pray Tarkhans would be dissatisfied with their present religion and hunger for the truth that is in Jesus Christ. Pray that the Lord would cause many Tarkhans to come to himself, and they would begin to worship him. Pray that healthy, growing churches will soon be started among this people.—DK*



# SHAIKHS

DAY

16

Though Kashmir is an exception, the division of India and Pakistan in 1947 resulted in a mostly Hindu population in India, and a predominantly Muslim population in Pakistan. However, there are about 86 million Muslim Shaikhs living in India. Who are they? The Shaikhs are descendants of Arab invaders who conquered most of the area of what is now Pakistan as well as the northwestern part of the Indus Valley from Kashmir to the Arabian Sea. The invaders brought the Muslim religion with them. Today Shaikhs live in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The word Shaikh has many variations, but, in general, it refers to a leader or person of prominence.

There has been much ministry activity among Shaikhs in India, but little work in Nepal. Although their roots are associated with farming, today, as is common with many communities, Shaikhs are urbanized and are found in many types of businesses and public service. In fact, urban Shaikhs are often stereotyped by their reputation for business acumen, teaching their children mathematical skills at an early age, and strategies for doing business.

*Pray for ministry efforts among the Shaikhs of India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan to bear much fruit. Pray for a new work among the Muslim Shaikhs in Nepal so that they too will be represented among the nations, tribes, tongues, and people at God's throne in heaven.—JS*

## 1 CHRON 21:26,

David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings. He called out to the LORD, and the LORD responded by sending fire from the sky and consuming the burnt sacrifice on the altar.

*Pray for the prestigious Shaikhs to make a "peace offering" of their lives to the Lord.*

## MUSLIM SONAR PEOPLE

## 1 PET 1:6-8, NKJV

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love.

*Pray that the Muslim Sonar people will seek and find faith in Christ, which is more precious than the gold they sell.*

One of the first things that would be obvious to a Western visitor in an Indian city would be the amount of gold jewelry bedecking every woman, even those considered low-caste and very poor. In Indian society a woman often wears her wealth, and gold jewelry is an essential part of her dowry. Gold is highly prized in Indian society, and gold and silversmiths have popular and lucrative occupations.

The Sonar people are the gold and silversmiths in India. They design very intricate and fine jewelry, often set with precious and semi-precious stones. Idols play a big part in Hindu culture, and much of the jewelry depicts the likeness of Hindu gods.

Most Sonar are Hindu with over six million living in India; but there are also Muslim Sonars, about 31,000. Muslim Sonars speak Urdu, and there are abundant Christian materials and resources in that language. The Sonar goldsmiths see and deal with wealth every day, and can easily consider themselves privileged and wealthy, when in reality they are desperately poor and doomed. They need the savior. "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant (or goldsmith) looking for fine pearls (or gold). When he found one of great value (Jesus, the savior), he went away and sold everything he had and bought it." (Matthew 13:45)

*Pray that the Sonar peoples will be introduced to the one who is more precious than silver or gold. Pray that he will send his workers to the Muslim as well as Hindu Sonar communities.—JS*

# MALIK PEOPLE

DAY

18

Did they find a better way, or was it just a matter of convenience? For whatever reason, the Malik people of Kashmir converted from Hinduism to Islam. They maintain good relationships with their Hindu neighbors and even attend their religious ceremonies. Having good relationships with the Hindus is a good thing; some Maliks are involved in politics and business, so they must get along with everyone.

The Malik people consider themselves to have moderate status as Muslim communities go, but since many of them are involved with business, state level politics, medicine, engineering, teaching, and national defense, it seems that they have a higher status than most Kashmiri Muslim communities. There are also many Malik people in the northern states of West Bengal, Gujarat, and Maharashtra. One of their women, Sakshi Malik, broke through a barrier to perform as a female wrestler at the 2016 Summer Olympics where she won a bronze medal.

The Malik people are Sunni Muslims. With the small number of followers of Christ in their part of India, it is unlikely that the Malik people have met any followers of the Lord.

*Pray for the believers to befriend the Malik people in Kashmir. Pray that the Malik people will find a way to accept the gift of eternal life that only Jesus can offer. Pray for a disciple making movement among them that will affect their communities in Kashmir, and all other parts of India where they live.—KC*

## PS 27:4, NET

The one thing I ask of the LORD—the thing I seek most—is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD's perfections and meditating in his temple.

*Pray for many from the Malik community to find delight in the God who made them, and in his son Jesus Christ.*

## AWAN RAJPUTS

## JER 33:6, NET

But I will most surely heal the wounds of this city and restore it and its people to health. I will show them abundant peace and security.

*Pray that the Rajput peoples, who have made their name through war, will find peace and security with the Lord of the universe.*

They fought with great distinction in World Wars I and II, and were considered a warrior class by the British during their reign in India and Pakistan. The Awan Rajputs are descendants of Arabs who invaded the area hundreds of years ago. In fact, most Awan Rajputs claim direct descent from Muhammad Khaifa, the Prophet Mohammed's son. They are found in both Pakistan and India, but mainly in the Punjabi and Kashmiri speaking areas. There are both Hindu and Muslim Rajputs, but despite their difference in faith, when Rajput honor is at stake, both Hindu and Muslim Rajputs have united together against threats from external ethnic groups. Their ethnic identity and pride in their history and culture bind them together – Hindu or Muslim.

In colonial times the British considered the Awan Rajputs as highly desirable military recruits. With their strong martial tradition, they have a powerful presence in today's Pakistani army. The Awan Rajputs obviously have a strong tradition of fighting for and defending causes they deem worthy. We need to engage them in another "army," as "soldiers" who wage war against Satan and his cohorts in the advancement of the Kingdom of heaven coming to earth.

*Pray that Awan Rajputs will see Christ and his kingdom coming to earth as the most worthy battle of all. May they embrace the savior as not only their lord and king, but also as their spiritual commander in chief.—JS*

# CHIB RAJPUTS

DAY

20



Physical and military power: that is what the Chib Rajputs are about. Like the Awan Rajputs we prayed for yesterday, they are part of the warrior

Rajput community. Whether they are Hindu or Muslim, they view the military as the best career for their men. Their spirit for adventure has often taken them out of their own country to engage in war. Most live in the northern parts of India and Pakistan, especially in Kashmir. As a reward for their service to the British, the Chibs received the honorary title of Raja during the colonial rule of Great Britain. A Chib Rajput is considered a person from a very respected clan. The Chib are mostly a Kashmiri community, and today they are still very involved in Kashmir where many altercations arise between India and Pakistan.

Whether Hindu or Muslim, the Chib Rajputs need to hear the gospel message, which is readily available in many forms in the various languages that they speak. “But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?” (Romans 10:14). And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?

*Pray that the lord of the harvest will send out his harvesters to the Chib. Pray that these proud people will have ears to hear when the gospel is proclaimed.—JS*

## PS 27:1, NET

The LORD is my light  
and my salvation—so  
why should I be afraid?  
The LORD is my fortress,  
protecting me from danger,  
so why should I tremble?

*Pray that the Chib Rajputs  
will make the Lord their  
salvation rather than  
physical and military power.  
Pray that Jesus will become  
their foundation and their  
identity.*

## DOMAAL RAJPUTS OF KASHMIR

## PS 72:7, NET

During his days the godly will flourish; peace will prevail as long as the moon remains in the sky.

*Pray for the Domaal Rajputs to yearn for the day when Jesus prevails and brings peace to the earth.*

Chandra yawned as she leaned against her mother. “Please tell me a story, mama.”

“There was once a man named Mala Rajput. He went to Kargil where he married a Buddhist woman. The children of that marriage are our ancestors. Later, there were two brothers named Dharam and Puran. Dharam was selected to be the leader of the tribe, but on a visit to another place he converted to Islam and was sent away. So, Puran became the leader of the tribe, but later he too converted to Islam and changed his name to Dom. And that is why our tribe is called Domaal, because we are descendants of Dom.”

There are 13,000 Domaal Rajput people in Kashmir, and they are 100 percent Islamic. They have at their disposal complete Bibles in their native language of Urdu, as well as audio recordings, many Christian films and videos, tracts, publications explaining salvation, and a plethora of children’s Christian material. Yet, it’s all unused and awaits those who would answer a call of God to take these materials to the Domaal and present the gospel of Jesus Christ to them in a sensitive and relevant way.

*Pray that someone answers God’s call. Pray that the Holy Spirit softens the hearts of the Domaal Rajputs as they know no other way of life than the Islamic way. Pray that the veil is removed from their spiritual eyes, and Christ will manifest himself to them in a powerful way.—PE*

## MUSLIM JANJUA RAJPUTS

*(This story illustrates attitudes of this people group.)*

Akbar shook his finger under his teenage son's nose. "Don't even think about becoming interested in a Jat or a Sikh girl. They are not for us. We have been the ruling class for hundreds of years. No Jat farmer or Sikh will ever be part of this Rajput family."

There are over 200,000 Janjua Rajputs throughout the world, primarily in Pakistan. In India there are only 3500, and just 1900 of those are Kashmiri speakers. They are disdainful of those with lower caste status even within their own Janjua clan (such as those who have turned to farming). They are aggressive toward "infidels," the term they use for anyone not of the Islamic faith. Yet within the broader Rajput cluster, they are a religious minority. In India most Rajputs are either Hindu or Sikh.

There has been a complete Bible translation in their languages since 1899, and a New Testament since 1813; so for over 200 years the good news of Jesus Christ has been within their reach. But the chains of Islam have kept them from reaching for what is available.

*Pray that the stony hearts of the Janjua Rajputs would be touched and softened by the Holy Spirit. Pray for a hunger for the truth and a desire to claim Jesus Christ as their Lord. Pray for transformed hearts that love and accept other communities.—PE*

### JN 16:33, NET

I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In the world you have trouble and suffering, but take courage—I have conquered the world.

*Pray for the Janjua Rajputs to understand that they are not in control; Jesus is.*

## SIDHU JATS

## PS 127:2, NET

It is vain for you to rise early, come home late, and work so hard for your food. Yes, he can provide for those whom he loves even when they sleep.

*Pray for the Sidhu Jats to stop striving for power and rest in the Lord.*



The 2800 Sidhu Jats of India have a long and colorful history, including the melding of a royal household with a very menial caste. The founder of the Sidhu clan married

a Jat woman and merged into the Jat community. The Sidhu clan is the largest known Jat clan and is recognized for their royal background.

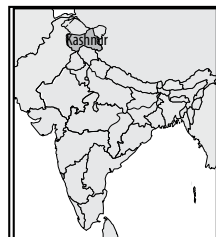
After the breakup of the Gupta Empire in 550, the noblemen whose main job was warfare became known as Rajputs while the people of low means and class became Jats. Jats were mainly involved in agriculture and serving higher castes. However, many Jats excelled in military service and were rewarded with good farmland, so the distinction is sometimes blurred even today.

Today the Sidhu clan in Kashmir is completely Islamic. Their main language is Urdu which is a blessing as there are a myriad of gospel helps and scriptures available to them if only they would pay attention. The complete Bible was available in the Urdu language over 150 years ago. There are Urdu movies, audio Bibles, and literature sitting on shelves, while generations of Sidhu Jats ignore God's offer of eternal salvation. It's as if they are living on a diamond mine and don't even know it!

*Pray for the revelation of Jesus Christ to sweep through Sidhu Jat communities. Pray that both high and low castes will seek and receive the word of God.—PE*



# BANDUKKHAR PEOPLE OF KASHMIR



What do you think happens when a Muslim community manufactures guns in a land where there are active anti-government militias? Not surprisingly, the Indian authorities have severely restricted gun manufacturing in Kashmir due to opposition to Indian rule in this state that is marked by international Muslim-Hindu conflict.

A 2014 *Al Jazeera* article highlights Kashmir's struggling gun makers, the 700 Bandukkhhar people. In years past their factories have mainly been located in a part of the city of Srinagar named after these gunsmiths. They made gun barrels.

The primary language of the Bandukkhhar is Kashmiri. The Bible translations, the JESUS Film, gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are all available in this language. However, the unreached Bandukkhhar people have no known Christian witness among them. They are a people without the Prince of Peace, in a land of violence and instability.

*Ask God for praying fellowships in India and elsewhere to intercede for the Bandukkhhar community. Pray for anointed witnesses to go to the Bandukkhhar, perhaps through work or business connections. Ask that the Bandukkhhar people be drawn to Christ-centered resources available in the Kashmiri language. Pray that the Holy Spirit raises up disciples to spark a disciple making movement among northern India's Bandukkhhar people.—CR*

## MATT 5:9, NET

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.

*Pray for many from the Bandukkhhar people to become peacemakers in the war-torn land of Jammu and Kashmir.*

## BAFINDA PEOPLE

## GEN 16:11-12, NET

Then the LORD's angel said to her, "You are now pregnant and are about to give birth to a son. You are to name him Ishmael, for the LORD has heard your painful groans. He will be a wild donkey of a man. He will be hostile to everyone, and everyone will be hostile to him. He will live away from his brothers."

*Pray for the Lord to raise up many from Muslim communities in Kashmir like the Bafindas to bring about peace where there is now strife and conflict.*

**F***reedom at Midnight* tells the story of South Asia's independence from Great Britain. At the stroke of midnight, the Indian sub-continent was divided into Muslim East and West Pakistan and Hindu India. In between was Jammu and Kashmir, divided between Hindus and Muslims. Two years ago the area was in the news over explosions by rebels who would like Kashmir to be a part of Pakistan because it has a Muslim majority.

Some of my colleagues in India were Kashmiri Christians. However, today's people, the Bafinda, are 100 percent Muslim. If there are Muslim-background believers (MBB) among this people, they are unknown. The Bafinda were originally cotton weavers, but with the importation of machine-made cloth, they branched out into carpet weaving and other industries. The actual number of Bafinda is unclear because population estimates widely range from 14,000 (see Joshua Project) to 348,000 (see Peoplegroups.org)! Although gospel materials are available in Kashmiri, the Bafinda are said to speak Dogri or Kashmiri. Those speaking or reading Kashmiri or Urdu may access the gospel in Bibles, the JESUS Film, audio format, and radio broadcasts.

*Pray that these people seek freedom in Christ, not political revolution. Pray that churches will adopt this group. Pray that the Holy Spirit will foster an abiding interest in Jesus and that the Bafinda will seek access to scriptures, Bible radio, and audio broadcasts. Pray that the JESUS Film will become popular among the Bafinda people. Pray for spiritual growth and protection of individual MBB and congregations.—TP*

# BAKKARWAL PEOPLE

DAY

26



Create International

In a documentary by Rajesh Kaul, two Bakkarwal men are shown discussing a lost goat. One man says, “I’ve been searching all day. Was it eaten by a

wolf or a leopard? Or taken by a farmer or a thief?” His interlocutor responds, “You need to produce the goat. It must have got caught somewhere. Go and search for it again.” Does that sound like a story in the Bible? The shepherd in the parable was willing to search long and hard for his one lost sheep.

The Bakkarwal people of Kashmir practice Sunni Islam. They are goat herders by tradition. They practice migration according to the seasons, moving down the mountains in winter in search of greener pasture for their herds. Bakkarwal women spin wool from goat hair and make it into colorful hats. Weavers turn the wool into blankets.

In the last few decades, Kashmir has seen much fighting between the Indian government and Muslim separatists. The Bakkarwal and their flocks have been seriously threatened by terrorists. Consequently, they have had to abandon their nomadic lifestyle and livelihood, remaining in the foothills. Their communities suffer from lack of infrastructure and employment opportunities.

*Pray for the good shepherd to “find” these Himalayan lost “sheep.” May the Bakkarwal come to know how much God cares for them. May they soon heed the call of God.—CMW*

**JN 10:11-12, NKJV**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.

*Pray for the Bakkarwal shepherds to see that the only shepherd they should follow is Jesus Christ, who gave his life to save mankind from sin.*

## HANJI PEOPLE

## MATT 14:33, NKJV

Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

*Meditate on what this verse would mean to Hanji people if they would read the Gospel of Matthew and open their hearts.*



Long

An Indian Boatman

Little Ahmad had eagerly awaited this day, but now that it was here, he was disappointed. He had always admired the way his lean, but muscular dad towed his boat. Today, Ahmad's dad told him he was old enough to take a turn. Ahmad tried towing. The boat hardly moved! This was back-breaking for a little boy like him, and it was not the fun he had envisioned.

Ahmad belongs to the Hanji boatmen caste in Kashmir. They live on the lakes or along riverbanks. Boats are their distinctly unglamorous "cars" and cramped "houses." Some Hanji boatmen earn their living paddling visitors around scenic lakes.

In 2014 floods devastated the lives of many Hanji. Authorities in Kashmir demolished dwellings along the riverbanks, but did not provide alternative settlements. As a result many of the Hanji people are now homeless. Without education or economic resources, they were powerless to persuade the authorities to help provide for them.

In the Bible we read of Jesus getting around by boat, teaching and telling stories while standing or sitting in a boat, and even sleeping in a boat while a storm raged on the lake! The Hanji people, who are Muslim, would be pleased to know that Jesus and his disciples understood their daily activities.

*Please pray for them to know the one who befriended boatmen and fishermen. Pray that Jesus will send someone to tell them his stories, and that their lives will be transformed.—CMW*

# BOMBA PEOPLE

DAY

28



Crete International

One cannot find much information about the Bomba, and some of it is contradictory. Therefore what conclusions can we make? First, they

are forgotten, hidden, or neglected by those outside of their communities. Secondly, we need to start praying for them because God wants them to become part of His holy family.

However, we do know some things. There are just fewer than 2,000 Bomba people. They are all Muslims. They are unengaged, meaning that there are currently no efforts being made to lead them for Christ. They live in the state of Jammu and Kashmir which is the site of territorial conflicts between India, Pakistan, and sometimes China.

There is some uncertainty about the languages they speak. One source tells us they speak Kashmiri and Bhadrawahi, while another source says they speak Dogri. Fortunately, there are printed and audio Bibles, the JESUS Film, and audio gospel messages from Global Recordings Network (GRN) available in each of these languages.

So why are there no Bomba Christians? These languages are spoken by numerous people-groups, and the recordings and videos were produced in a different location and not readily available to the Bomba. Apparently, none of the Bomba people have heard the messages in their own languages.

*Pray that God will open the door for the Bombas to hear the messages, which are now available on the Internet. Pray that believers in India will take the recordings and videos to the area where the Bomba people live.—AHS*

## IS 52:7, NET

How delightful it is to see approaching over the mountains the feet of a messenger who announces peace, a messenger who brings good news, who announces deliverance, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

*Pray for messengers of peace to soon come to the Bomba people of Jammu and Kashmir.*

## SUDHAN PEOPLE

## IS 32:17, NET

Fairness will produce peace and result in lasting security.

*Pray for justice and mercy to reign in Kashmir so that all will have the chance to excel spiritually and economically.*

In the late 14th century a great number of people in Kashmir were converted to Islam, including the Sudhan people who are now entirely Muslim or Sikh. There are no known followers of Christ among them.

The Sudhan Education Conference (founded in 1936 and still in existence today) is one of the oldest welfare organizations of the Subcontinent. Per their Facebook page their mission is, “not just related to the formal education of Kashmiris but also moral education and preventing ill will to erupt in the society. It is focusing on the other evils from the society which are the cause of poverty and underdevelopment.” They explain that despite all the work that has been done there is a lot more left to do and, “an effort is being made to spur the horse and come in line with the rest of the world so that our youth may look into the eyes of the future and restore the lost dignity and honor of Muslims.”

Despite forward movements in education, the Sudhan tribe is also being influenced by the Wahhabi Islamic movement that promotes separatist tendencies among Indian Muslims.

It is significant that a portion of the Sudhan tribe has access to the Internet, because there are numerous Christian resources available in the two languages they speak, namely Kashmiri and Dogri.

*Pray that educated members of this people group will find the JESUS Film and audio gospel messages in their languages on the Internet. Pray that the Spirit will prepare the hearts of the Sudhan community to receive the gospel when it comes. Pray that the Wahhabi movement will not take hold among the Sudhan people.—AHS*

# RADIO LIFE INDIA

DAY

30

Carole was sharing a praise report from Radio Life India with her friends who were meeting at the end of the year to thank God for answered prayer for Christian work in unreached parts of the world. She said, “We are so humbled by the Lord who opened new ways of preaching in Pakistan, India, and all over the world. God is blessing us, and Radio LIFE now has a growing audience in Pakistan. They are able to listen to gospel messages in Urdu, Punjabi, Sindhi, Hindi, Pashto, and Arabic, and we are thankful for the response. One of our listeners in Pakistan wrote, ‘I grew up Muslim. When I was a boy a man told me that Isa (Jesus) was a wonderful prophet. I wanted to know more about Isa, but no one could help me. Then I heard your radio program and you were reading about Isa from the Holy Bible. Your program helped me to know Isa, and it is changing my life.’”

Radio LIFE ministry programs can be heard by more than two billion people in India, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the United States. Many people in some of these countries, especially India, have never heard the gospel. Radio LIFE is also sending Bibles to listeners on request.

*Pray for open hearts to these radio broadcasts. Pray that God will give his direction and provision to Pastor Thomas and his staff so they can continue this vital work for the Lord's kingdom.—PD*

## NUM 6:26, NET

The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

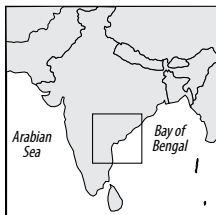
*Pray that the Holy Spirit will use Radio Life India to bring inner peace to the struggling people who listen to their broadcasts.*

## LIGHT AND LIFE MINISTRIES

## ROM 14:17, NET

For the kingdom of God does not consist of food and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

*Pray for those being trained by Light and Life Ministries to find righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.*



“It is hard to believe that it was 18 months ago that we prayed and discussed the goals for our mission work in India. God has answered many prayers!” John Cleophas was writing his update to a friend. “It is estimated that there are about 700,000 churches in India and only 20 percent of the leaders have some biblical training. There are about seven of us with Internet Theological Education by Extension (ITEE) Global who travel to India and Africa to train the church leaders. In India we are working in five major cities with 12 groups. We are in the learning process as this type of (Internet and personal follow up) training is in its infant stage. We pray that we can train 100,000 leaders in the next seven years.”

“Our Light and Life Ministries are progressing in Gokavaram, Andhra Pradesh. There are about 20 children in the orphanage receiving care, schooling, and teaching from God’s word. The care takers are Dr. Raju and his wife Vimala. Raju is also a pastor, and he has two small churches with 50-80 members. Pastor Raju himself came from a Hindu background as did most of the people in his churches.”

*Pray that God will guide and provide what is needed for this work. Pray for the Holy Spirit to direct many whom are touched by this ministry to give their hearts to the Lord.—PD*



# Global Prayer Digest

Sept 2017 • Frontier Ventures • 36:9



**PRAY FOR THE  
HUMILITY TO CALL  
ON THE NAME OF THE  
LORD IN J&K!**

- 6—Be Sure to Wear Flowers At Their Funerals
- 10—Putting their Hope in Prayer Wheels
- 14—Head Hunters Who Now Love Jesus
- 15—Gaur Brahmins More Powerful Than Bulls
- 25—Fierce Warriors Who Won't Harm a Snake



Dear Praying Friends,

The state of Jammu and Kashmir in northern India which we prayed for last month and this month consists of three regions: Jammu, the Kashmir Valley, and Ladakh. Last month we focused our prayers on the Muslim peoples of the area, and this month we will pray for the non-Muslims of the state, namely the Buddhists, Hindus, and Sikhs. We will start with the Buddhist groups, move on to the Hindus, and complete the month with two Sikh groups that made their way north.

I gleaned many ideas for the prayer guide this month from Kathleen Dillard of the High Places Prayer Patrol. If you visit her website, you will notice that I copied many of her Bible verses and prayer entries for these people groups in the Himalayan Mountains. You could use these Bible verses to pray for unreached peoples anywhere.

When the daily prayer entries are turned in, I am sometimes surprised by a certain theme that the Lord gives to the *GPD* writers. This time many of the *GPD* writers are asking you to pray for the Holy Spirit to give these capable and often wealthy people groups who inhabit the area the humility to embrace the Lord. All of us need the Savior, Jesus Christ. How hard it is for high caste Hindus to accept a different spiritual view when many of them believe they are one reincarnation away from the ultimate spiritual bliss we call nirvana.

In Christ

Keith Carey, editor-in-chief, *GPD*

[Globalprayerdigest.org](http://www.globalprayerdigest.org)

<http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/>

## September 2017

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104-2721  
888-903-3322 (from within the USA)  
386-246-0170 (outside the US,  
including Canada)  
[subscriptions@frontierventures.org](mailto:subscriptions@frontierventures.org)

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Keith Carey  
For comments on content call  
626-398-2241 or email  
[keith.carey@frontierventures.org](mailto:keith.carey@frontierventures.org)

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Paula Fern

### WRITERS

Eugena Chou  
Patricia Depew  
Patti Ediger  
Karen Hightower  
Wesley Kawato  
Ben Klett  
David Kugel  
Christopher Lane  
William Mason  
Bianca Ontiveros  
Ted Proffitt  
Cory Raynham  
Lydia Reynolds  
Jean Smith  
Allan Starling  
Chun Mei Wilson

### DAILY BIBLE COMMENTARIES

Keith Carey  
Robert Rutz

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

Lois Carey  
Rachel Wearden

### GRAPHICS

Matt Anderson

### PRINTER

Yuli Color Reproduction Co., LTD.  
(Taiwan)

### WEB SITE

[www.globalprayerdigest.org](http://www.globalprayerdigest.org)

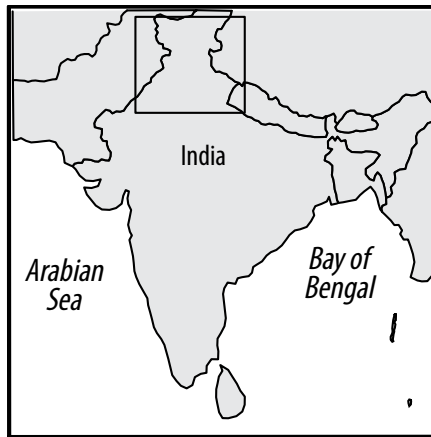
[www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/](http://www.globalprn.com/global-prayer-digest-magazine-downloads/)

ISSN 1045-9731  
Contents of the *Global Prayer Digest* © 2017  
Frontier Ventures  
1605 East Elizabeth Street  
Pasadena, CA 91104

Contents of this booklet may be reproduced if appropriate credit and subscription information are given.

## PRAY FOR

*A Disciple Making Movement Among  
Buddhists and Hindus in J&K*



# THE DEEP DEVOTION OF TIBETAN BUDDHISTS



There are approximately 1.5 million Tibetans which are divided into 129 people groups. Many of the Tibetan peoples are nomadic which is one of the reasons why their lives are so challenging. They may live at an altitude where the valleys are 10,000 feet above sea level and the mountain peaks reach above 15,000 feet. The climate is cold and often harsh. Pockets of people are isolated throughout the mountain ranges. One group of people in this land often cannot understand the language of those who live over a nearby mountain.

Not only do the Tibetans face harsh climate conditions, but they also face political oppression from the Chinese government. In 1949 the Chinese military took over Tibet, and many people were killed. This invasion forced many Tibetans into exile, including the Dalai Lama himself. Tibetans fled primarily to northern India, Nepal, and Bhutan. Today, over 94,000 Tibetans live in India, 13,000 in Nepal, and 1,000 in Bhutan.

BY CHAVIS  
RIGGS AND RICK  
REBSTOCK

---

BACKGROUN

### **Tibet's Unique Form of Buddhism**

In the midst of the challenges of a harsh climate and fierce political oppression, you find a people dedicated to Buddhism. But the form of Buddhism practiced in Tibet is uniquely different from other forms of Buddhism in the world. Tibetan Buddhists believe that one can attain “nirvana” in one’s lifetime. This form of Buddhism often demands an intense devotion that must be accompanied by radical religious practices.

Tibetan Buddhism is also mixed with many of the local religious practices where it is imperative to make sacrifices to appease the gods. Bon is an ancient Tibetan religion that has a strong influence on the people’s daily lives. It was mixed with Buddhism around the 8th century AD, and it separates the Tibetan form of Buddhism from all other forms of this religion. Bon incorporates occult practices, demon worship, and aspects of shamanism. The mixture of Bon and Buddhism in Tibet has produced a religious system based on pleasing very dark spirit beings. The fear of their gods is entrenched in their religion, and this fear can be overwhelming. Some experience horrible nightmares or what they call “terrors in the night,” being awakened by intense fear in their sleep.

However, even in the midst of this darkness in Tibetan Buddhism, the common people and monks are diligently seeking to find God. The Tibetans are people of great faith and prayer. In fact their lives revolve around prayer! This culture of prayer is embraced by the monks and also by the common lay people. They use many different methods and tools in their forms of prayer which needs to be directed to the true and living God.

### **Tibetan Forms of Prayer**

One of the ways the Tibetan peoples practice prayer is by using prayer flags. A visitor to the country will notice that these flags are hanging throughout the Himalayan Mountain ranges. The people believe that these flags will bring blessings and prosperity. When the wind blows upon them, they believe that these blessings will flow down the mountains into the valleys and touch the lives of the people.

---

## THE DEEP DEVOTION OF TIBETAN BUDDHISTS

---

Prayer wheels are also an essential part of Tibetan life. These prayer wheels can be rather small and hand held or as large as an adult. The prayers of the people are written on the wheels. When the people spin the wheels, they believe that their prayers are being uttered. Whether they are praying in the monasteries or taking a bus ride, you can see the Tibetans being faithful to bring their burdens and their desires to their gods using their prayer wheels.

Along with the prayer wheels Tibetan Buddhists also carry with them prayer beads. They use these beads to count how many times they are praying their mantras. A mantra is simply a prayer that they pray over and over again. There are typically 21, 28 or 108 beads that they carry. While counting their mantras using the prayer beads that number 21 or 28 they often lie down prostrate. When they use 108 prayer beads, they are repenting of all of the sins that are written in Buddhist doctrine. Tibetans meditate on what they are praying for until it is ingrained into the fabric of their beings. This practice takes much discipline and focus.

Buddhists believe that power and enlightenment come through fasting; therefore, fasting plays a major role in their spirituality. The Tibetans believe that in fasting they are denying themselves food as a sacrifice in order to bless others. Therefore, when they fast, they give food to the poor. There are many different types of fasts. One type consists of no food; other types of fasts limit the kinds of food they eat. Many Buddhists have endured long fasts drinking only water. It is common for monks to fast every day from noon until the following morning. According to tradition, Gautama Buddha advised the monks to fast in this way. Buddhists will tell you that Gautama Buddha himself fasted very intensely for six years.

### **Redemption for the Tibetans**

Though there is much darkness among these people, there are some things in their lives that fill our hearts with hope. Earlier in the article we pointed out that the majority of Tibetans are nomadic in some way. Tibetan nomads rarely settle anywhere for an extended period of time. They often go in and out of the harsh climate of the Tibetan region of the Himalayas. Sometimes they travel through Nepal and northern India. This gives them an opportunity to hear the gospel while temporarily being away from China's

oppressive communist government. Thus the Tibetan nomads may not only be able to hear the gospel, but they could spread it wherever they go. There are also some qualities in the Tibetan Buddhist practices that could cause us to have hope that they may be open to the gospel of Jesus Christ if they have a chance to hear about the Lord. These people are committed to prayer and fasting. God's plan for them could be that they will become intercessors for his kingdom of light. Remember, before the foundation of the world God also chose the Tibetan people to be in Christ and in love with him. He gave them the desire and discipline to bow down and humble themselves and pray. When the Tibetans receive a revelation of Jesus Christ, they will become some of the most powerful and effective prayer warriors in the Buddhist world.

### Prayer Points

- *Pray for God to send laborers to Tibetan nomads. It will take believers who can withstand harsh climates, much travel, and a radically different worldview than we have in the West.*
- *Pray that the spirit of fear will be broken among the Tibetan peoples. Pray that they will soon know the love of God that casts out all fear (1 John 4:18).*
- *Pray that God will open their eyes to Christ and use their devotion, prayers, and fasting for His honor and glory.*
- *Pray for the revelation of Christ to be received by the Tibetan peoples (Ephesians 1:17-19).*
- *Pray that God will raise up and send many laborers to reach all Tibetan peoples with his love that is found only in Christ.*

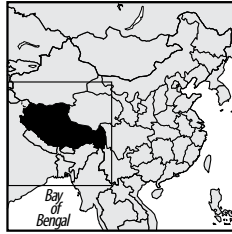
# MORAVIAN MISSION WORK IN LADAKH

## JOHN 14:17, KJV

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Remember in Isaiah 9:6 the baby Jesus was given the four names of God, including Wonderful Counselor? Well, here is the Holy Spirit walking the earth in the person of Jesus, "for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

*Pray for all Ladakhi peoples to recognize God's Holy Spirit in the person of his messengers and desire his Holy Spirit to live in them.*



It became clear that any Christian workers would face hardships or even death if they tried to establish a work in this solidly Buddhist part of the world. Moravian missionaries knew that they could pay with their lives for serving Christ, but they proceeded to do so anyway.

In 1855 Moravian missionaries Eduard Pagell and August Wilhelm Heyde began an exploratory tour of Tibet. They were not welcome in Leh, Ladakh. They left

and founded a mission station as near as possible to Chinese-controlled Tibet. This solitary outpost was at 10,000 feet, which was much easier for Europeans to physically adapt to than the higher elevations of other parts of Tibet.

In 1857 the two missionaries welcomed the arrival of their leader, Heinrich August Jaeschke, who later devoted his efforts to developing Christian literature and Bible translations in Tibetan. Perhaps, even more welcome were brides that arrived for the three missionaries in 1859.

One of the first obstacles these Moravian missionaries faced was indifference. Tibetans would either ignore their preaching or view them as entertainers. It was very difficult for Tibetans to think that Christians took their sins seriously because they killed livestock to eat meat.

*Pray for the Tibetan peoples in Ladakh to understand Christ's view of sin and recognize that they cannot be forgiven from their sins apart from Him.—KC*



## MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY, CONTINUED

DAY

02

It was an epidemic that opened doors for missionaries. Though ill in bed himself, Moravian missionary Eduard Pagell set out to cross over high mountain passes to vaccinate Tibetans against small pox. After he had vaccinated 639 people, he was sent packing by local officials who did not want a gospel witness in the land of the Dalai Lama.

At the mission station, workers faced open hostility once a couple of Tibetans embraced the gospel. Tibetan believers were ostracized, disowned by their families, and lost their jobs. In the coming years Moravians developed ways for Tibetan believers to make a living through a mission run farm. They introduced the cultivation of potatoes, which soon became an important part of the Tibetan diet. They also were demonstrating to the Tibetans that they didn't need the lama's blessings to have a good harvest. Other Moravians established knitting schools at nearly every mission station. They introduced handlooms to improve the local economy. This was important partly because communist activities in China were making things too dangerous for transporting and trading goods.

Moravians also made use of a rest house for traveling traders. Providing these mobile traders with gospel tracts and literature was an excellent way to get these materials spread far and wide. A Tibetan Bible woman and her husband were left in charge of the home. This was a first step towards turning leadership over to local believers.

*Pray for workers to have discernment as they attempt to turn leadership over to local believers.—KC*

### MATTHEW 9:37-38, RSV

Then He said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

A dangerous prayer ... because as soon as they obediently prayed this prayer, five verses later, they are being sent!

*Pray that the Tibetans everywhere will joyfully pray this prayer to the Lord of the harvest, and be sent by him to reap the harvest of their own people and the peoples beyond them.*

## MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY, CONTINUED

### ROM 12:1, NLT

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

The goal is to take regular, fleshly humanity, and have God transform them into his likeness!

*Make this your prayer for both the missionaries and the peoples of India this month.*

Though Jaeschke had to return to Europe by 1868, he eventually translated the Bible and other Christian literature into Tibetan. It took until 1947 for the entire Tibetan Bible to be published in one volume. He and Eduard Pagell both died in 1883.

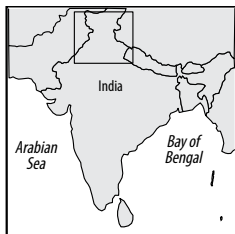
Though these two founding members were gone, the Moravian work hit a high point around 1900. Moravians had 21 workers in four mission stations, and nearly 100 Tibetans were in their spiritual care. By 1909, 100 homes were open to their activity. Missionaries and Tibetan evangelists used literature, and even chiseled Bible verses on trade routes to make Christ known.

Medical work also opened doors for the gospel. Moravians opened a hospital in Leh. Others established clinics where they removed cataracts, and there was also a leper ward. Moravian doctors gained a good reputation in Tibet.

The two world wars, India's independence movement, and China's Communist Revolution eroded Moravian work. During WWI British-controlled parts of the Tibetan world sent Moravian missionaries away because most of these workers were German nationals. It became clear that the Moravians needed to quickly turn leadership over to Tibetan believers before it was too late. In 1945, the congregation in Leh voted to use their own funds rather than depend on monies from outside. Leh and two outstations were the last toeholds of this 100-year mission effort.

*Pray that God will soon re-establish this work in Tibet.—KC (From: The History of the Moravian Church, The Renewed Unitas Fratrum—1722-1957, by Kenneth Hamilton)*

## TIBETANS IN LEH



"It's our duty to fast," said the older Tibetan man to the people of Camp 12. Everyone nodded and gathered in one of Camp 12's wooden bungalows. Soon the Tibetan exiles in Leh were chanting prayers to Buddha. Many of the participants wore black bandanas with the words "Free Tibet" on them.

The Leh district is located in the high mountains of Kashmir, near the border with China. (India's state of Jammu

and Kashmir which we are praying for this month consists of Jammu, the Kashmir Valley, and Ladakh.)

Since 1962 many Tibetans have fled religious and political persecution in Chinese occupied Tibet. Such people often ended up in one of Leh's 12 refugee camps. This part of India has a high concentration of Tibetan Buddhists.

Almost all Tibetans are Buddhists, and very few follow Jesus Christ. Each day one of Leh's 12 refugee camps goes on a 24-hour hunger strike. The strikers pray to Buddha for a free Tibet. They do not know that their prayers do not reach the sovereign God.

*Ask God to lead a mission agency to reach out to the Tibetans of Leh with the message of salvation. Pray for open hearts and minds among the Tibetans. Pray that God would give these Tibetans a dedication to the prince of peace, the one who paid for the sins of the world. Pray that the Tibetans in Leh will serve him by taking the gospel to Tibet.—WK*

## ZECHARIAH 7:5, NET

Speak to all the people and priests of the land as follows: 'When you fasted and lamented in the fifth and seventh months through all these 70 years, did you truly fast for me— for me, indeed?'

*Pray that there will soon come a day when Tibetan Buddhists in Jammu and Kashmir will use their spiritual disciplines in a way that pleases the Lord.*

## BUDDHIST BODH PEOPLE

### II COR 10:4-5, RSV

The weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle to the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

The world, the flesh, and the devil have taken captive the thoughts of all the unreached peoples. Intercessor, by setting the Lord always before you, abiding in him, and making his thoughts your thoughts ... are you ready to pull down strongholds and take every enemy thought captive?

*Pray He will do this through you among the Bodh people. Pray that this will be the time when the thoughts of the Bodh people are freed to seek and find the Lord.*



The three river valleys are full of boulders, and few plants grow in them. The Bodh people group gather in villages and pray to Buddha. They believe only Buddha can save them from the evil spirits that

make their lives hard. They bow to idols in temples, chanting prayers to Buddha day and night.

The Bodh have lived in the high mountains of Kashmir for as long as anyone can remember. The people speak three dialects which are almost different enough to be considered separate languages.

All Bodhs are Buddhists. There are no known followers of Jesus Christ among them. Not one verse of the Bible has been translated into their dialects. There is no Bodh version of the JESUS Film. There are also no gospel radio broadcasts in the Bodh language.

*Ask God to lead faithful workers to reach out to the Bodh people of Kashmir with the message of salvation. May this people group come to realize that Jesus Christ can free them from the evil spirits who torment them. Pray that the Bible and gospel recordings would be translated into their language. Pray for a disciple making movement among the Bodh people that will shake the foundations of Buddhism throughout Asia.—WK*

# BUDDHIST BROKPA PEOPLE

It is common for people to bring flowers to funerals, but we usually don't wear them at such solemn events. Among the Brokpa people, both men and women wear floral print clothes to funerals. The women even wear flowers in their hair.

Everyone remains silent until a relative of the deceased lights the funeral pyre. Then a Buddhist priest begins to chant. Slowly the flames consume the body. The Brokpa believe that the burning of the body frees the soul to be reborn in a new body.

The Brokpa live in Jammu and Kashmir near the border with Pakistan. They speak a language similar to several spoken in Pakistan. But unlike their kinsmen, the Brokpa are Buddhists, not Muslims. There are few, if any, followers of Jesus Christ among the Brokpa. There are 200 Christian believers among the neighboring Ladakhi people group.

*Pray that Ladakhi believers will be led by God to reach out to their Brokpa neighbors with the message of salvation. Ask God to open the spiritual eyes of the Brokpa. May they come to see that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the light. Pray for a disciple making movement among the Brokpa people that will spread throughout Jammu and Kashmir.—WK*

DAY

06

## PROVERBS 23:7A, KJV

For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.

Intercessor, as God's Spirit moves you to open your mouth and pray for the Brokpa people, you will intercede using his words from his word, and you will clear the way for the harvesters you are praying for!

*Pray to the lord of the angel armies to help us to take every thought captive as his harvesters bring Brokpa people his word!*

## BUDDHIST CHANGPA PEOPLE

### PS 36:6, NET

Your justice is like the highest mountains, your fairness like the deepest sea; you preserve mankind and the animal kingdom.

*Pray that when the Changpa people look to the mountains, they will praise the one who made them.*

In a remote corner of the world there lies a land matched by few others in its beauty and unyielding severity. Barren mountains are capped with snow, and surrounded by plains of windswept grass and stones. Standing in a mountain pass and looking down upon the valley below, a visitor might see herds of livestock and here and there tents pitched upon the plain.

This is the region of Ladakh in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, home to the Changpa people. These herds are the Changpas' livelihood, and the yak-hair tents, called *rebos*, are their homes. Here the Changpa raise goats, sheep, and yaks for meat, for their milk, and for fur. The goats, in particular, are valued for their fine cashmere wool, called *pashmina*.

Every Changpa family houses two objects of veneration: a picture of the Dalai Lama and their household deity. Although the Changpa are Buddhists, they also place much stock in bon, their ancestral shamanistic religion, and its numerous spirits. The Changpa fear some of these spirits which are believed to cause severe weather and other afflictions.

The Changpa are completely unreachable. All practice bon and Tibetan Buddhism; none have had an opportunity to commit their lives to Jesus.

*Pray that Christ-followers would be moved by God to attempt to bring the gospel to the Changpa. Pray that this would be successful, so that the Changpa need fear spirits no longer, but find rest and solace in Christ alone.—WM*

# BUDDHIST GARA PEOPLE

DAY

08

What makes the Gara people unique? There could be many reasons, but in this case it's the Indian government that gives them distinction. Even though they number only about 1,000 people, the government recognized them as a separate tribe in 1989. Researchers previously had labeled them as part of the larger Ladakhi people group because they live in the same geographical area. They don't speak Ladakhi, and they have their own marriage and death rituals. The Ladakhi treat the Gara as the lowest social class, and they don't allow them to hold administration positions.

Most Gara claim to be Buddhists, but still practice spirit worship. They call on demonic spirits to protect them and, at some ceremonies, wear hideous masks. Some Tibetan Buddhist lamas go into demonic trances in order to give spiritual advice to the Gara community.

There are no known followers of Christ among the Gara. Social barriers divide them from the neighboring Ladakhi where there are over 200 believers. There are no Bible translations in their language, Lahul. But Global Recordings Network (GRN) has audio Bible stories, evangelistic messages and an audio-visual overview of the Bible. These can be downloaded free for evangelism and church planting.

*Pray that social barriers will break down between the Gara and their Ladakhi neighbors. Ask the Lord of the harvest to help Ladakhi believers reach out to the Gara with the gospel message and to help the Gara people to find a way to use resources on the Internet to spread the life-giving gospel message.—AHS*

## PS 2:8, NKJV

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for your possession.

*Ask him for the Gara nation!*

## BUDDHIST MANGRIK PEOPLE

### PS 100:4-5, NKJV

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endures to all generations.

*Pray that soon many from the Mangrik people will enter a place of joy and praise to the one who gives them life!*

What do you do when three mission websites give contradictory data and duplicate each other? After you check other sources you discover not much available under Mangrik; but there is much under Ladakhi, their language; one source says they are Hindu while another says they are Tibetan Buddhist. There are some Muslims among them.

The 2001 Indian Census gives the Mangrik a population of 105,000 living in Jammu and Kashmir. They reside in 250 settlements. A few of them live also in China, the result of China's annexation of part of their homeland. Except for the introduction of a highway, the annexation has little practical consequence.

They are agriculturalists and herders who live above the 15,000 foot elevation in a desert watered by snow melt. Most of the year they live indoors, farming only during the four-month summer.

Christian witness has been sporadic. There have been eighth-century Nestorian missionaries, 17th-century Portuguese Catholics, Moravians from the 19th century to the present, and Cooperative Outreach of India. There are very few followers of Christ, however, despite distribution of gospel tracts and recordings in their language.

*Pray for good fruit from literature distribution, medical missions, and evangelism. Pray for openness to the gospel. Pray that Chinese evangelists will reach those in China and that those converts will evangelize in Jammu and Kashmir. Pray that websites will be accurate and that Global Prayer Digest writers will be led by God to needed resources.—TP*



# TIBETAN BUDDHIST RIGZONG PEOPLE

DAY

10

How much hope would you have to fulfill a great need if all you could do about it was to spin a prayer wheel as a form of prayer to an invisible spiritual force? Would it even be worth the effort? The 2,100 Tibetan Buddhist Rigzong people can only spin their prayer wheels and chant to dark spiritual forces when they face the uncertainties of life.

As followers of Christ, we know that life is filled with many uncertainties. Yet we also know that when tragedies come, we can go before the only one who can do something about it. Unlike the Rigzong people, we know that the one we pray to is loving and kind; he will hear and answer our prayers. Even if we don't get the answer we want, we can count on God to do what is right.

The Rigzong people have no such assurance. There is not a single one of them who follows Christ. Though they have high status among Ladakhi speaking Buddhists, they face the same challenges as the rest of us.

*Pray that the Rigzong people will soon hear about the one who holds the future and loves them intensely. Pray that they will be given the gift of faith that the sovereign God is good all the time. Pray that there will soon be a group of Rigzong people learning from Christ through the word, and sharing with other Buddhists in Jammu and Kashmir.—KC*

**JER 29:11-13, NKJV**

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and go and pray to me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart.

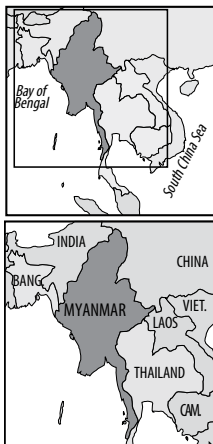
*Make this your prayer for the Rigzong people. Pray for them to catch hold of the Lord who answers prayer.*

# BUDDHIST MON PEOPLE IN INDIA AND MYANMAR

## ROMANS 9:25A, NIV

I will call them “my people”  
who are not my people; . . .

*Pray that this will be the  
time when the Mon people  
of India are adopted by their  
heavenly father.*



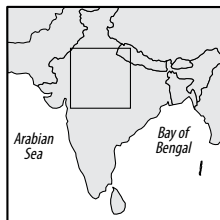
**M**on history dates back thousands of years; they were the first inhabitants of Burma, now called Myanmar, and they first came there as highly cultured Buddhists with a north Indian classical heritage. Today there are anywhere between one and five million of them worldwide, mainly in Myanmar, but a small number live in India, including about 1,000 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Indian Hindu culture and the Asoka Buddhist kingdom of India helped shape the Mon people. This great Mon civilization played a significant leadership role in Burma’s long history and brought Theravada Buddhism to Burma. More recently, however, the Mon people in Myanmar have experienced persecution and they struggle for autonomy.

Mon villages normally consist of thatched-roof houses, cattle sheds, and granaries. Villages typically contain a monastery that also acts as a school, and pagodas with Buddha images. Their form of Theravada Buddhism is accompanied by beliefs in various spirits. In Kashmir the primary Mon language is Ladakhi, and there is a complete Bible, the JESUS Film, and audio recordings in their language.

*Ask God to stir Indian churches to pray for the Mon. Pray for Christ followers to go to these unreached people. Ask for Mon hearts and minds to open to Jesus and his word. Pray for a disciple making movement among the Mon people in Kashmir and Myanmar.—CR*

# HINDU GARHWALI PEOPLE



As a *Global Prayer Digest* reader, you already know that even when a people group is being reached, sometimes their near neighbors do not have the chance to hear about Christ.

Though there are Garhwali people in Jammu and Kashmir, they are more likely to be found in Uttarakhand, a state to the south of the one we are praying for this month. Both states are very unreached. The region next to where the Garhwali people

live is home to the Kumauni people group. This latter group has many missionary church planting efforts, but that effort has yet to reach the Garhwali people.

A local pastor has poured out his heart to the Western world, pleading for “some good and energetic missionaries to come from abroad.” He leads a small Bible Training Center that trains students for only about three months, and he needs outside help. His dream is for the Garhwali people to be involved in “church planting and saving souls.” That is our heavenly father’s desire as well.

*Pray that the Bible Training Center will grow and send out hundreds of “energetic” church planters to the Garhwali people. Pray for a disciple making movement to emerge among the Garhwalis. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the eyes of the Garhwali people to His truth and love.—JS*

## PS 67:3-4, NKJV

Let the peoples praise you,  
O God; let all the peoples  
praise you. Oh, let the  
nations be glad and sing  
for joy! For you shall judge  
the people righteously,  
and govern the nations on  
earth.

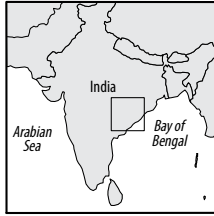
*Make this your prayer for  
this people group that is  
overlooked by man, but not  
overlooked by God.*

# INDIA GOSPEL OUTREACH WORK IN ODISHA

## PS 67:1-2 NKJV

God be merciful to us  
and bless us, and cause  
his face to shine upon us.  
Selah. That your way may  
be known on earth, your  
salvation among all nations.

*Pray that God's mercy and  
his salvation will be known  
by each of these tribes we  
are praying for today.*



Who are the Adibas? It is not the name of a tribe, but it is the name of a cluster of 13 tribes who have been called, “particularly vulnerable tribal groups.” They live in Odisha, a state in eastern India. Actually, there are 62 separate tribal groups in the state, but only 13 of them fit into the “particularly vulnerable” category.

The Odisha Bible Training Center (OBTC) sponsored by India Gospel Outreach (IGO) is a school where evangelists from Odisha are trained. The Adibas constitute 22 percent of Odisha’s population—a significant number of people who desperately need a disciple making movement.

As a reader, consider particularly adopting one of these groups to pray for on a daily basis. These are the 13 tribal groups that need daily prayer: Santal, Munda, Saura, Kui, Ho, Sadri, Gadaba, Kandhas, Bhuiya, Bhumjo, Mankidia, Juango, and Dongria Khonda. Recently the New Testament has been published in Juango and Gadaba.

*Pray for graduates of the OBTC to be perfectly equipped to evangelize these very vulnerable tribes. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare their hearts so that his word, when heard or read, will find fertile soil and can take root and grow and flourish. As they go out two by two, pray that they will be led to “men of peace” who will show hospitality to them as they teach and lead tribal members to Jesus.—JS*

**H**ead-hunters in India? The Hmar tribe was labeled the “worst head-hunters,” killing at least 500 people in 1871. But nothing is impossible with God, and the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ changed this entire tribe. God transformed their lives when a missionary from Wales introduced the Hmar tribe to the gospel. During the missionary’s five-day stay, God’s word impacted a man whose conversion was the seed for the organization Bibles for the World, ministering to unreached people groups in developing nations.

John Pudaite is president of Bibles for the World, and his father and grandfather were members of the head-hunting Hmar tribe. Pudaite’s father started the ministry that is based in Colorado Springs, CO. Although it ministers to the unreached in developing nations, it has an emphasis on India – where it all began with the conversion of the Hmar tribe to Christ.

Bibles for the World not only provides Scripture distribution, but also includes Christian education, healthcare, and relief and development to unreached people groups. Pudaite says, “We were one of those unreached people groups, but within a generation, as the gospel spread across our people, it captivated them. It continues to move out from tribe to tribe ... and now across the world through this ministry.”

*Pray for God’s wisdom for Bibles of the World’s ongoing ministry. Pray they will find new and interesting ways to spread the gospel and fulfill the Great Commission.—JS*

## PS 33:4-5 NKJV

For the word of the LORD is right, and all his work is done in truth. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

*Pray that those reached by Bibles for the World will have the faith to know that God loves righteousness and justice, and that the earth is filled with his goodness.*

## GAUR BRAHMANS

## PS 103: 1-4, NKJV

Bless the LORD, o my soul;  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name! Bless  
the LORD, o my soul, and  
forget not all his benefits:  
who forgives all your  
iniquities, who heals  
all your diseases, who  
redeems your life from  
destruction...

*May every Brahman group  
in Jammu and Kashmir  
bless the Lord with all that  
is within them! May they  
recognize God as the forgiver  
of sins and the healer of all  
diseases.*

The Gaur bull, the largest bull species found in the Indian plains, tilled the soil for the Brahman farmer. As the bull effortlessly churned the earth with unbridled strength, the Gaur Brahman watched with pride. The Hindu Brahman belonged to a Guar clan named after the bull's power. His people believe the Guar bull is the only animal that refuses to bow down to a lion. Likewise, they believe that Guar Brahmans are the only people who refused to submit to any king, represented as a lion. They also were responsible for advancing the movement for a unified India.

Many years ago, Brahmans were the spiritual consultants for the Hindu kings. Today, regional traditions significantly separate Brahman communities from each other. Some are vegetarian, some eat meat, some allow divorce, some imbibe alcohol, some are priests, some are musicians, some are doctors, some work in government service, some are self-employed, and some work other people's land. But all 3,200,000 Gaur Brahmans have pride in being Guar and, according to Hindu mythology, in being the originators of the human race.

They remain 100 percent Hindu and worship all the major gods and goddesses. They are completely unreached with the gospel.

*Pray that the Holy Spirit will speak clearly to Gaur Brahman community leaders, and commission them to bring true spiritual power and holiness to their people. Pray that pride will not keep these Brahmans from submitting to the Lion of Judah.—LR*

# PUROHIT BRAHMANS

DAY

16



Members of a Brahman Family

**Y**ou call me ‘teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet (John 13: 13-14, NIV).

The word pundit, defined as an expert in a specific field, originates from a Sanskrit word referring to a Hindu teacher or priest, “pandit.” The meaning of Purohit is synonymous to this word; consequently, the Purohit Brahmins are leaders and experts in Hindu teachings. The Brahmins hold the traditional role as spiritual guides for Hindus. The caste system places these teachers and scholars at the top of society.

The gospel is available to the Purohit Brahmins because the New Testament and the JESUS Film have been translated into Marwari, their primary language. However, why would the Purohit Brahmins be drawn to the gospel, when they already enjoy a position of spiritual prestige? We must pray that the Holy Spirit will work in their lives. When Jesus, as teacher and Lord, washes the feet of the disciples, he flips social order upside down by showing that true leaders are servants. He rejects the worldview most Purohit Brahmins are content with, and instead, chooses to embody humble servanthood.

*Pray that the mystery and beauty of Christ’s kingship would captivate and challenge the hearts of the Purohit Brahmins to imitate him. Pray that God’s love would bring an end to the systemic injustice of the caste system.—EC*

**2 COR 6: 16, NKJV**

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

*Pray that the Purohit Brahmins will seek and find the true teacher who provides spiritual wisdom. Pray that they will understand that anything less than depending on Jesus Christ is an idol.*

## AGARWAL BANIA PEOPLE

### PS 65:5, NKJV

By awesome deeds in righteousness you will answer us, O God of our salvation, you who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off seas...

*Pray that the Agarwal Baniyas will notice the awesome deeds of the Lord, and be humbled by them enough to submit to him.*

Caleb Project



**L**ive in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Romans 12:16, NIV.

The history of the Agarwal Baniyas is one of wealth and loftiness. They are believed to be descendants of Agrasena, a legendary Indian king who established an entire kingdom of traders in north India. For

a position in his lineage the Agarwal Baniyas have experienced great favoritism and money under the law. The Agarwals are noted for often disobeying Hindu rules with no consequences. They may be Hindus, but they are usually not good Hindus. Throughout the generations many Agarwal sects branched off into smaller groups.

The majority of Bania subgroups like the Agarwals see no need for the God of the Bible. Kingdom breakthroughs become especially difficult to attain in a country where the lower castes are associated with embracing the gospel, but the higher ones, like the Agarwal Bania, view it as being for those beneath them. However, there is at least one believer from this Bania community.

*Pray that these prestigious people will be willing to listen to those from lower castes who have found that only Jesus satisfies our spiritual needs no matter how much status men give us. Pray for a humility among the Agarwal Baniyas that will open their hearts to understand that they need to seek and find the true Lord.—BO*



# JAIN AND HINDU PORWAL BANIA



A Jain Alter

*(This story is intended to illustrate the attitudes of this people group.)*

Jidu hurried his son to get ready for school. The car was waiting outside the luxurious home. He told his son, “It is ok for you to go to this foreign school, but you must not forget that you are a Porwal Bania.

You come from a prestigious community. We are one of 24 of these gotras (clans) so remember you are already promised for marriage. No girls!” He emphasized.

The Porwal or Porwad Bania people are known by many names. They number about 340,000 and some of them live in Jammu and Kashmir. Formally known for both their large numbers and their wealth, they have been famous temple builders from about 900 AD. The Porwal Bania can be either Hindu or Jain.

Jains believe there are 14 levels of virtue of which the first level is total ignorance and the second is falling away from the “right” faith. It is understandable why they reject Christianity since it represents to them failure to obtain freedom for their soul at the 14th level. They believe that by doing good works they will become less sinful and more pure. Thus they will not be in a continual state of victimhood to bad karma.

*Pray for workers to carry the message and freedom from sin to the Porwal Bania community. Pray that they will be drawn by the Holy Spirit to the joy of salvation by faith in Christ, and that they will understand that salvation is not of works.—PE*

**JN 10:15-16, NKJV**

As the father knows me, even so I know the father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

*Pray for the Porwal people to be humble enough to accept this unfathomable gift from Jesus Christ.*

## MAHESRI BANIAS

## LK 7:50: NKJV

Then he said to the woman,  
"Your faith has saved you.  
Go in peace."

*Pray for God to raise up  
many women like the one  
we read about today to put  
their faith in the God of the  
Bible.*

Create International



*(This story illustrates what  
we would like to have happen  
for this community.)*

Sindi leaned against the wall and closed her eyes. As she walked home from work in her family's market stall, she stopped at this house often to rest and

sit beside the open window. Her excuse was that she was heavy with child and needed a rest. But today, since her newborn was with her mother, she hoped no one would question her stopping place.

She listened to the beautiful words that played inside the house. A gospel recording taught about the sacrifice of the lamb of God, and it caught her attention. As a member of the Lingayat sect, her husband frequently took a sheep or a fowl to the temple as a sacrifice. She wondered what it could mean that a man named Jesus was called the lamb of God.

Thirty million Bania are in India, and the Mahesri community is among them. The name Bania has its roots in a word for "trader," since they are an important trading people. Lingayat and Hindu adherents believe in many gods, and in some households as many as 50 icons of different gods must be brought out, bathed, and covered with flowers. The chief object of their worship is the blue god Shiva. They are a well-educated and prosperous people.

*Pray that the Mahesri Bania community will learn of  
the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and turn to Him for their  
salvation.—PE*

## HINDU AND MUSLIM ZARGAR

How do you find information about a people group that has so few members? By Indian standards the 40,000 Zargars are few. A search on the Internet turns up snippets such as this: “a Romani-related ethnic group deriving from Zargar, Iran.” They live in Jammu and Kashmir and speak Dogri. Most are Muslim, but a minority are Hindu. That is the extent to which the general reader can obtain data on the Zargar.

And yet—one man among them has achieved notoriety. His name is Mushtaq Ahmed Zargar, and he is a terrorist. Isn't it sad that a whole people group can be falsely defined by one of its most evil sons? He grew up in Jammu and Kashmir, and was involved in the 1989 kidnapping of the Indian home minister's daughter. He has over three dozen murder cases registered against him, some of them for high-level officials.

The world in general may have little awareness about the Zargar people, but the God who “counts the number of the stars” and “gives names to all of them” (Psalm 147:4) also knows each Zargar man, woman, boy, and girl—by name!

*Please pray for this people group to encounter the one who made the stars and man. May the Zargar people come into a relationship with their loving creator.*

*Pray for a disciple making movement involving the Zargar people to spread throughout Jammu and Kashmir.—CMW*

### EPH 1:18, NKJV

... the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, . . .

*Make this your prayer for the Zargar people of Jammu and Kashmir.*

## HINDU BATWAL PEOPLE

### PS 150:4-6, NET

Praise him with the tambourine and with dancing! Praise him with stringed instruments and the flute! Praise him with loud cymbals! Praise him with clanging cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

*Pray that the musical Batwal people will soon use their abilities to lead many into praising his name throughout India!*

If you are a lover of ethnic pop music, you may be acquainted with the singer Lal Chand Yamla. He was a singer who gained great acclaim, performing even in California, and he is a member of the Batwal community. No other Batwals can report such happy travel tales.

The Batwal people live in Jammu and Kashmir. According to tradition, they were forced out of their Kashmiri settlements when India was attacked by Alexander the Great. At that time they discovered that neighbors had seized their homes and properties. The Batwal were reduced to becoming village watchmen.

The Batwal community is economically backward and is eligible for affirmative action by the government of India. But not much has been done to improve its position. Of late, many people have migrated to towns and cities to pursue jobs in the government, transportation, and trade.

The ones who remain in their clans practice Hinduism. Each clan has its own temple and male deity. Once a year, each family comes before the temple to bow, pray, and offer a goat in honor of the eldest son.

*Pray for these Batwal people to know the one who was willing to become a sacrifice to pay for their sins once and for all. Bible translations, the JESUS Film, and gospel recordings are available in their language. Please ask God to motivate the people to avail themselves of these resources.—CMW*

# HINDU GARDI PEOPLE

DAY

22



*(This story is intended to illustrate the attitudes of this people group.)*

Santosh, a young man with deep-set eyes, sighed heavily when another string on his sarod instrument broke. It was the second time it had happened in one morning. His friend Dilpreet who sat ready at a tabla drum, commented, “Not again! Arad (a Hindu god) is not favoring us today.”

“Only if Arad even exists,” Santosh commented. Dilpreet’s face seemed to snap in Santosh’s direction. “What? Arad provides us with the ability to play these instruments. He makes it possible for our people to sing...”

“I know the stories,” Santosh said. “But I wonder if they are only myths. I saw a movie online. It was about someone called Jesus. This movie told how he was sent from God.” Dilpreet commented, “From which God?” “The movie said there is only one God.” Dilpreet scowled and said, “Just get another string so we can play our music.”

Gardi people like these two men are skilled musicians and singers. They have gospel materials available online in their heart language of Dogri. But there is so much spiritual confusion from Hinduism that few, if any, have put their faith in Christ.

*Pray for the Lord to speak clearly despite the plethora of false gods that are keeping the Gardi people from knowing him. Pray for his kingdom to come and his will to be done among the Gardi people of Jammu and Kashmir. Pray for a disciple making movement to soon emerge.—CL*

**MATT 6:10, NET**

... may your kingdom come,  
may your will be done on  
earth as it is in heaven.

*Make this your prayer for  
the Gardi people today.*

## HINDU JHINWAR PEOPLE

### PS 24:9-10, NKJV

Lift up your heads, o you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the king of glory shall come in. Who is this king of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the king of glory. Selah.

*Pray that the Jhinwar people will soon recognize Christ as the king of glory.*

Create International



A Hindu Bride

*(This story illustrates realities of the Jhinwar people.)*

Kala sat quietly, listening to the sounds of night birds, and soaking in the serenity of a beautiful Indian sunset. Her name means "miracle," and that name is proving very fitting.

The recent life-changing memory of her secret baptism dominated her thoughts. Her father told her recently that he was arranging a marriage for her to an older, successful Hindu man; one whom the gods would surely approve. He did not know she was already "betrothed" to the most wonderful man who ever lived, Jesus! She would surely welcome a miracle from her "husband" in this circumstance.

Jhinwar people like Kala are 99.9 percent Hindu, although they use Siana, traditional medicine men, to remove evil spirits and seek cures for diseases. Formerly, Jhinwar people worked in flower mills and in the fishing trade. Recently, they have entered stone-cutting, agriculture, and the road-building professions. Education is not a priority for this people group, although the younger generations are being exposed to new ways.

Seventeen languages are spoken by Jhinwar people in 10 states in India including Jammu and Kashmir. Hindi is their primary language, and there are many Christian resources in this major language.

*Pray that God's Holy Spirit will open new doors in hearts to positive change among the Jhinwar people. Pray that Jesus will be introduced to the Jhinwar people as the perfect groom.—KH*

# HINDU BASITH PEOPLE

DAY

24

Since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities have been clearly seen being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse ... their foolish hearts were darkened (Romans 1:20, 21b)

The 29,000 Basith people are a 100 percent Hindu, agricultural people group living in a predominantly Muslim part of Jammu and Kashmir. Their customs are similar to neighboring peoples, but they remain separate. They worship all deities of the Hindu pantheon, including their clan gods and goddesses. They are not vegetarian, and they drink alcohol.

Relationships between men and women among the Basith people are different from many groups in that area. When divorce occurs, the men become responsible for the children. Daughters share in potential inheritances that usually only goes to sons. Women contribute to family income by doing odd jobs, and they enjoy equal status with men. The Basith people prefer small families of three or fewer children.

Their primary language is Kashmiri, although some speak Hindi or Urdu as trade languages. The Bible, GRN audio resources, and the JESUS Film have been translated into each of their major languages.

*Pray that Basith people will become sensitive to God's beautiful creation, and will ask, "Who made all of this?" Pray that God's Holy Spirit will send messengers able to communicate Almighty God's provision to these people who have been in bondage to dark spirits for centuries.—KH*

## IS 56:7, NKJV

Even them I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.

*Pray for this blessing to come upon the Basith people soon.*

## HINDU BAIS RAJPUTS

### JOHN 7:37B-38, NIV

Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

*Pray that the Bais Rajput of India would be thirsty for God's forgiveness and come to the Lord Jesus for living water.*

Imagine a community noted for being fierce warriors who won't harm a snake even when it harms a member of their clan. The Bais Rajput people of India have a reverence for snakes; in fact they use the image of a cobra as their symbol.

The name, Bais Rajput means "occupiers of the soil." They own much land and have others work their land. A Bais Rajput will not do manual labor themselves because of their high status. They live throughout India, but most live in two northern states. Their primary language is Hindi, though many in Kashmir speak Kashmiri.

Like other Rajputs they are descended from an ancient Hindu warrior ruling class. They are famous for being military officers and for their ability to maintain their lands and possessions. At the time of the Mughal Empire, the Bais Rajputs were outstanding cavalry officers and called, "the spears of the sultan." Today many are involved in trade and banking. They are known to be excellent athletes especially in field hockey.

*Pray that the pride of the Bais Rajputs would not get in the way of their embracing Christ. Pray that the Lord would move members of the Bais Rajput community to see the JESUS Film that is available in Hindi. Pray that the Lord will send Christian workers to target this particular people and begin to build relationships with them.—DK*



## TRAUMA HEALING TV PROJECTS

In a region not far from Jammu and Kashmir, women are facing trauma from domestic violence, drug abuse in their families, sex trafficking, and suicide. Millions need psychological and spiritual healing from the traumas they face. In their Muslim cultures women are often kept under tight surveillance by the same men who cause the trauma in the first place. Male relatives are not always in the house, but TV sets are.

In partnership with the American Bible Society and the Middle East Woman's Leadership Network, there is an emerging effort to train Christian women in trauma counseling. With proper training these women can be used by God to mentor suffering women either in person or via television productions. Earlier this year they produced a 10-episode TV series on trauma healing in Farsi. The show modeled for viewers how to discuss trauma and the pathway to healing. They are starting a pilot program to train female leaders and media producers to reach women with the important message of trauma healing.

This is only a small first step. It will eventually require a network of trained trauma counselors who are grounded in God's word. There will need to be people available who can produce television shows that address these needs. ([www.mideastwomen.org](http://www.mideastwomen.org))

*Pray for the Lord to raise up the right people to extend this effort. Pray for Christ to be honored and given his place as lord by women who are blessed by these efforts.—KC*

### JN 4:13-14, NKJV

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

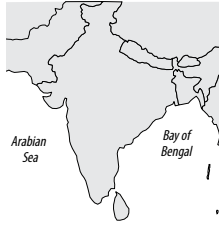
*Pray for the Lord to use this ministry to take the water of life to many women in the Muslim world.*

# HINDU OR SIKH BHATIA (AKA, BHATTI) RAJPUTS

## IS 40:5, NKJV

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

*Pray that the Bhatia Rajputs will listen when the Lord opens his mouth to speak to them.*



Traders, merchants, and moneylenders, the Bhatia are primarily a commercial people, though they were not always so. Once upon a time, the Bhatia were a warrior race. The word Bhatia is taken from the Bhatti or Bhati dynasty – ruled by a warrior-king named Raja Bhoopat.

Once largely focused in what is now India's north, the Bhatia were, in a way, the gatekeepers of India. Any would-be invaders from

Central Asia would be forced to face the renowned Bhatia Rajputs. Over time, the people fractured, and today they can be found in many northern states, with a diversity of languages and cultural markers. Some reside in Jammu and Kashmir, but just to the south others live in Punjab where they can be either Sikh or Hindu. These Bhatia people speak either Hindi or Punjabi, but they can also read and write in their Gurmukhi language. The Bhatia here prefer to maintain marriages only within their group. Others live in Haryana or further south in Rajasthan and Gujarat. A privileged minority have managed to migrate to the US or Germany for a higher education.

*Pray for the Bhatia to encounter the Lord in dreams and visions. Pray for a great harvest to begin among the Bhatia people, and for many to become missionaries throughout the highly unreached parts of northern India. Pray for a strong community of believers to rise up amongst the Bhatia.—BK*

# HINDU CHANDEL RAJPUT

DAY

28

**T**his people group is descended from two brothers, Aalha and Udal, renowned for fierceness and bravery in battle. They are the Chandel Rajputs. They are so famous for their bravery and fierceness that in some parts of India songs are still sung of their exploits.

The Chandel Rajputs were a powerful people, and they often dominated and subdued other peoples. During the 12th century they possessed significant territory. However, they were conquered in the 13th century by the Gaharwars.

The Chandel are said to be numbered among the 36 royal races. Though the Chandel can be found in large numbers, other Rajputs call them Jats, which means that they do not consider Chandels to be part of their communities.

Located primarily in India's northern states, the Chandel inhabit such states as Punjab, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Jammu and Kashmir. They speak Hindi and observe Hinduism as their primary religion. The gospel is not known to have made any progress as of yet among the Chandel Rajputs.

*Pray that the Lord would reach out to the Chandel through dreams and visions and through his word. Pray for spiritual sensitivity for these Rajputs, that they would know truth when they encounter Christ. Pray for materials and resources to be made available to the Chandel Rajputs, and for missionaries to take to the field. Pray that the Chandel Rajputs would soon discover their true worth in Christ.—BK*

## GEN 49:7, NET

Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce, and their fury, for it was cruel. I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel!

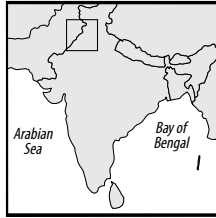
*Pray that the curse of violence and pride will be broken.*

## SIKH MAHTAM PEOPLE (AKA, RAI SIKHS)

### PRO 8:13, NET

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; I hate arrogant pride and the evil way and perverse utterances.

*Pray that the Rai Sikhs will learn to hate arrogant pride, and find the spiritual humility it takes to embrace the Lord.*



How many of you like to hear about a people that has advanced in a positive way? The Mahtam people, also called the Rai Sikhs, have done just that. They are a dignified and proud people who have advanced from common labor jobs of farming and rope making into professional occupations. Many are in the fields of business, education, and medicine. Historically most Mahtam people lived in the eastern region of present day Pakistan. Today most of their population of 655,000 live in India's Punjab State, but some live further north in Jammu and Kashmir.

For a long time the Rai Sikh community has resented other political parties that have ignored them. With perseverance they currently have gained a stronger voice in the Punjabi government by securing more assembly seats.

The word "Sikh" in the Punjabi language means "disciple." They are disciples of their founder, Guru Nanak (1469) and nine other successive gurus; the final one died in 1708. They believe there is only one God and he is the same God for all people and all religions. They condemn rituals such as fasting, visiting places of pilgrimage, superstitions, worship of the dead, and idol worship. They believe that salvation is achieved through meditation, the guru's grace, and service to a guru or service to people.

*Pray that the Rai Sikhs will receive God's grace, truth, and new life through Jesus.—PD*



A Sikh man

*(This story illustrates possible attitudes of this people.)*

The Ramdasia Sikh man looked troubled as he began to talk to his guru. “I have this Christian friend who believes that Jesus has forgiven his sins, and when he dies he will go to heaven to be with God. I read a Bible verse he gave me in which Jesus said, ‘I’m the way and the truth and the life.’ I’ve always tried to be a faithful Sikh, and I know that according to our scriptures that God created 8,400,000 forms of life, and that we won’t gain spiritual wisdom if we do not obey our gurus. Our scriptures say that the way to be cleansed from sin is to go through many rebirths. I wonder if Jesus may be the true way to God.” The Guru responded, “Jesus was a good man, but he is not God. All people will be reincarnated until they become Sikhs; then they have a chance to reach God. We are the right way.”

*About 80 percent of the 505,000 Ramdasia Sikhs reside in Punjab. Others are found in various parts of India including Jammu and Kashmir. Once known primarily as basket weavers, today they have advanced in areas of agriculture, business, and education. Pray that the Ramdasia Sikhs will hear God’s word, accept it, and enter the grace and joy of knowing that the living Lord is the true way to salvation.—PD*

## MATT 7:7, NKJV

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

*Pray that many members of the Ramdasia Sikh community will soon knock, seek, and find the Lord.*



# WILLIAM CAREY LIBRARY

**NEW**

## Megachurch ACCOUNTABILITY

in Missions

*Critical Assessment  
through Global Case Studies*

**Editors**

Jinbong Kim · Dwight P. Baker · J. Nelson Jennings ·  
Jae Hoon Lee · Steve Sang-Cheol Moon

**List Price: \$24.99**  
**Our Price: \$19.99**

ISBN: 9780878086306  
Dwight Baker, Steve Sang-Cheol Moon,  
Jae Hoon Lee, J. Nelson Jennings,  
Jinbong Kim (Editors)  
Paperback | 364 Pages | 2017  
William Carey Library

## MEGACHURCH ACCOUNTABILITY IN MISSIONS:

*Critical Assessment through Global  
Case Studies*

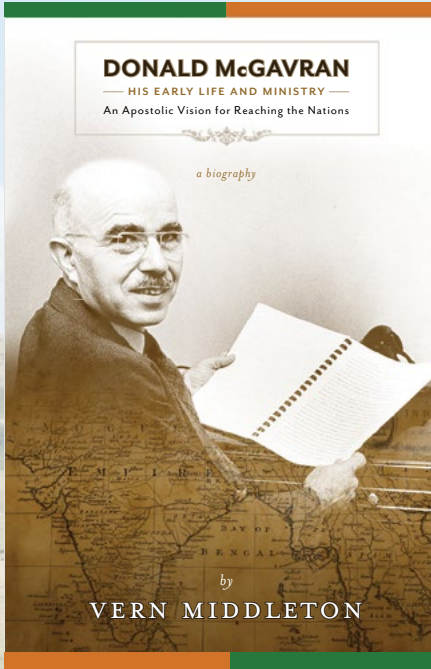
Megachurches are of relatively recent vintage. Their numerical strength invests them with social and financial power. To whom, if anyone, however, are megachurches accountable? What role do they play as innovators in missions? How have their enormous influence and financial strength been harnessed? What lessons can be learned? What course corrections ought to be made? Over the course of a week, the third meeting of the Korean Global Mission Leadership Forum (KGMLF), held in Korea in 2015, addressed these and related questions. Combining the insights of a rich mix of Korean and international megachurch leaders and scholars, *Megachurch Accountability in Missions: Korean and Global Case Studies* offers analysis, critique, and positive recommendations for future megachurch engagement in mission. This book is the third volume in KGMLF's *Accountability in Missions* series.

**[www.missionbooks.org](http://www.missionbooks.org)**

**US: 1-877-333-4411**



# WILLIAM CAREY LIBRARY



## **DONALD MCGAVRAN, HIS EARLY LIFE AND MINISTRY:**

*An Apostolic Vision for Reaching  
the Nations*

This biography is more than one man's interpretation of another person's life—it has numerous traits of an autobiography. Donald McGavran, *His Early Life and Ministry: An Apostolic Vision for Reaching the Nations* includes insights gleaned from archives, as well as hours of discussion with both Donald and Mary McGavran about the interpretation applied to particular events.

**List Price: ~~\$25.99~~**

**Our Price: \$20.79**

ISBN: 9780878084692

Vern Middleton (Author)

Paperback | 395 Pages | 2012

William Carey Library

**[www.missionbooks.org](http://www.missionbooks.org)**

**US: 1-877-333-4411**