



PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

God is Moving among the Deaf around the World

DEAF CULTURES AROUND THE WORLD ARE UNIQUE FROM THE CULTURES AROUND THEM, AND CAN OFTEN BE OVERLOOKED AND FORGOTTEN. BUT GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN THESE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE, AND HIS SPIRIT IS MOVING POWERFULLY AMONG DEAF COMMUNITIES ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

New Work Among the Deaf of Asia

In a Southeast Asian country, there is a village where Deaf are the majority population and sign language is the primary language. They are Hindus, and they believe their god is Deaf. The language that the villagers use is the only language that their god would understand. They also believe that when a child is born hearing, the child is cursed by the god; however, when a child is born Deaf, then the child is blessed. Workers have recently begun working in that village to bring the gospel to them. Pray that a Deaf church will begin there.



In South Asia, where the smallest mountains often peak above 10,000 feet, there are tens of thousands of Deaf who have been raised as Hindus. They believe that there is a supreme being but that there is no way to have a relationship with him. When people talk about Jesus with them, they believe that he is one of the gods who provides one of the numerous ways to heaven. They also believe that reincarnation exists as well. In 2018, four men began to follow Jesus. They are in the process of learning how to be a church. Persecution against those who follow Jesus is common. Pray that they will persevere, spread the gospel, and plant Deaf churches in their land.

“The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me. Lord, Your love is eternal; do not abandon the work of Your hands.” (Psalm 138:8 HCSB)

1 DEAF PEOPLES OF SOUTH ASIA.

Nepal is a predominantly Hindu and Buddhist country. Pray for the few Deaf believers as they grow and are discipled to stand strong, share the Good News with their communities, and start new groups, Bible studies, and churches.

2 THE PHILIPPINES. Please pray for a new area where drilling for a water well is helping to bring clean water to the community. Pray for the team of drillers and the local believers as they bring the message of hope while living there.

3 ARGENTINA. Please lift up the Chinese of Buenos Aires, which number approximately 80,000. Pray that the Chinese evangelical churches will be able to engage the Chinese of the city effectively, and that their impact will be felt worldwide.

4 DEAF PEOPLES OF SOUTH ASIA.

Pray for a new believer in Nepal as he starts a Deaf school in a remote village. Teachers will teach the basics while also sharing the Good News with the students and the community. Pray that dorm rooms will be ready for students to begin this spring.

5 LAST FRONTIER. A group of believers were recently told by authorities to stop gathering together. Pray for these believers to have God’s protection, care, and guidance. Pray that he will make a way for them to be able to reach the lost around them.

6 ROHINGYA OF MYANMAR AND BANGLADESH. A gospel seed-sowing plan is being prepared for the refugee camps. There are Christians in the camps who can help with sowing the seed, but they are often ignored. Please pray for a bold witness and for open hearts to receive the Good News.

7 DEAF PEOPLES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. Please be in prayer for the Indonesian Deaf church that recently started. Pray that they will remain submerged in God’s Word, growing in him, and that he will add to their number daily.

8 ANGOLA. Praise God for answering your prayers for more workers! Some IMB personnel serving elsewhere have answered the call to come and minister in Luanda. Pray for this couple as they make preparations to move.

9 KAZAKHSTAN. Please ask for believing teachers to teach well and to have opportunities to share the gospel with other teachers and with

students. Pray for students to study diligently and for believing students to have opportunities to share with other students.

10 DEAF PEOPLES OF CENTRAL ASIA. Pray for unity for the team in Central Asia, as several workers have recently moved there to serve among the Deaf. Pray also for political stability and favor in the eyes of authorities as workers seek to stay in the country long term.

11 MOZAMBIQUE. The recent women’s and youth’s annual meetings went very well! The youth meeting had over 700 youth, and out of that number, 35 youth made a profession of faith. Praise God, who continues to work among the Chuabo people!

12 EAST ASIA. Please lift up local believers. Pray that they will hold tightly to the Lord and trust in him. Pray that they will have wisdom in knowing how to respond to the recent increase in scrutiny from authorities.

13 DEAF PEOPLES OF CENTRAL ASIA. Pray that partnerships will multiply and increase workers’ efforts among the Deaf. Pray for local leaders who have fallen into sin and scattered the flock that was gathering. Pray for victory in the daily spiritual battles.

14 INDIA. Pray for the three palliative care teams that go out from Bangalore Baptist Hospital to provide home hospice care for terminally ill patients and their families. Pray that many will find eternal hope through their work.

15 PERSIANS OF EUROPE. Please pray for the Persian churches that are scattered throughout Germany. As the believers learn more about the Word, pray that they will choose obedience and faith.



This group is studying and preparing to translate a Bible story into the local sign language.

16 DEAF PEOPLES OF WEST AFRICA. Pray for the Deaf church plant in West Africa, asking that it will continue to be strong and that believers will continue sharing their faith. Pray for local believers to partner with workers in the effort of church planting among the Deaf.

17 CAMBODIA. Pray for a young woman who is a brand-new believer. She recently had a miscarriage late in her pregnancy. Pray that believers will sensitively allow her to grieve and be a comforting presence in her time of need.

18 AMAZON BASIN. Please lift up the faithful believers in the village of “Zion.” The village has again been ransacked. We know that our fellow believers are very discouraged. Pray that we can stand beside them and help encourage them. Pray that salvation will come to the persecutors.

19 DEAF PEOPLES OF THE WORLD. Pray for the challenges of reaching out to Deaf populations who do not read or write due to limited or no education. Pray for wisdom and guidance about how to develop and train Deaf believers in making disciples.

20 EAST ASIA. Pray for a believing family who has recently returned to East Asia after a time of rest and visiting family. Pray that the family will transition well, remain healthy, and integrate back into the culture smoothly.

21 JAPAN. Out of the rubble of the 2011 tsunami, a small church plant has begun. Pray that as they disciple their young believers and take them for outreach into the neighboring communities, a rich harvest for the Lord will be gathered.

22 DEAF PEOPLES OF THE WORLD. Pray for unity as workers and others seek to clearly



A worker guides her team through the process of telling God’s stories in sign language.

present God’s Word to Deaf around the world. Pray for each team member to persevere as they work on different passages to produce quality videos of God’s Story.

23 POST-SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA. Please intercede for believers in one region of post-Soviet Central Asia. Ask for healthy gatherings and multiplication among the brothers and sisters there.

24 BRAZIL. Pray for the Botafogo area of Rio de Janeiro. Pray for a potential church-planting couple who will lead out in this area in reaching this part of the city that is less than 1 percent evangelical Christian.

25 DEAF PEOPLES OF EAST ASIA. Praise God for Lily* and Betty,* who are thirsty to learn more about the Father. Pray that they will apply what they learn and be bold to share with other Deaf friends and contacts. Pray for a new Deaf church to begin in their area.

26 BALKANS. Mert* and his wife, Emi,* have been exposed to the gospel for nine years now. But recently, they seem to be pulling back from Christian friends. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to soften their hearts and draw them.

27 WEST AFRICA. Give thanks to God for the West Africa trucker ministry! Pray that truckers will be disciplined into becoming fruitful storytellers as they travel and make stops across nations.

28 DEAF PEOPLES OF EAST ASIA. Pray for wisdom for the Deaf church-planting team in East Asia, and ask that they will be an encouragement to each other. Ask the Father to help them share his stories with others as they continue learning to trust him.

29 INDIA. Pray for Reeta* and Nikita,* two young women who have learned to share their testimonies and the Good News. Pray especially for a Bible study they are hosting each week.

30 LAST FRONTIER. Thanks be to God for working in the hearts of many who recently became Christians and were baptized! Please pray for the preparations that are underway for their discipleship.

31 DEAF PEOPLES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. Please pray for willing people to come and serve alongside workers among the Deaf in Southeast Asia. Many Deaf have never heard of Jesus, and more people who are willing to proclaim his truth are needed.



God Is Working in West Africa

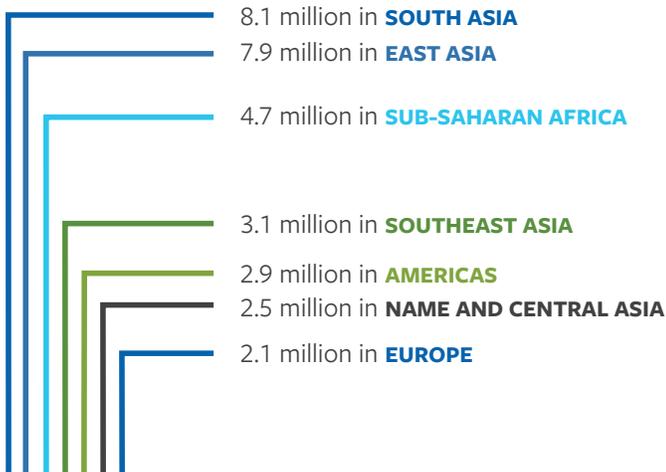
God is at work among the Deaf of West Africa! Mary* is a single Deaf woman who was a nominal Muslim. Worker Hannah Yount* asked to share stories with her, and she was eager to learn. After the first story, Mary asked how the world came to be. Hannah shared a short gospel story (Creation to Cross) and Mary signed, “That’s what I want!”

Astonished, Hannah asked what she wanted because she certainly hadn’t taught her enough. She said, “Jesus! I want to follow him!” Hannah was stunned and, honestly, wondered if it was true. Mary has been baptized and, even through persecution, continues to stand strong and share her new faith. She went home to another country in West Africa, and while there, she continued her boldness and led another woman to the Lord. Hannah can tell you, Mary is a follower of Christ! She sits in awe at the work of the Holy Spirit. It’s such an honor watch him work!

DEAF AFFINITY

MOST OF THE 35 MILLION DEAF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD HAVE NEVER SEEN JESUS’S NAME SIGNED IN THEIR LANGUAGE. OFTEN IGNORED AND OPPRESSED, THE DEAF ARE SOME OF THE LEAST EVANGELIZED PEOPLE ON EARTH.

UNREACHED DEAF AROUND THE WORLD



RELIGIONS

Christianity, Islam, and Folk Religions are just a few of the many belief systems that Deaf people adhere to. Though Christianity is the top religion among the Deaf in Mexico, only 0.4% are evangelical. The Senegalese Deaf are largely Muslim; only 0.2% are Christian. Deaf Chinese largely follow folk religions; only 1.9% are Christians.



**Names changed*

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