



PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

Every Church, Every Nation: South Asians Reaching the Nations

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO SOUTH ASIA IS A HUGE TASK. FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLE GROUPS HAVE LITTLE TO NO ACCESS TO THE GOSPEL. THESE PEOPLE GROUPS CAN BE FOUND IN PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH, INDIA, BHUTAN, SRI LANKA, NEPAL, MALDIVES, AND SCATTERED AROUND THE GLOBE. GOD ASSURES US IN REVELATION 7:9 THAT PEOPLE FROM EVERY NATION, TRIBE, PEOPLE AND LANGUAGE WILL ONE DAY BE BEFORE THE THRONE. WE LABOR TO THAT END, AND EVERY CHURCH AMONG EVERY PEOPLE, AND IN EVERY PLACE, HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN SPREADING THE GOSPEL TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HEARD.

Coming Home with Good News

The Galle Gurung live in the mountains of Nepal, where they have no access to the gospel of Jesus Christ. IMB missionaries and Christians around the world have been praying for the Galle. Recently, God led IMB worker, Frank Mullins, and a fellow Christian to a remote village and into a conversation with a Galle family. They were surprised when the family mentioned a church and its pastor, who was living nearby! Frank and his friend searched the village for the pastor until they reached the home of a man named Bishnu.* Over tea, Bishnu shared that his grandfather was from this Nepali village but had moved

to India to find work. Bishnu himself had grown up in the Indian state of Nagaland. Years before, God had brought missionaries to Nagaland to preach the gospel. Today, God is raising up Naga leaders to take ownership of evangelism, discipleship, church formation, and leadership development among their own people. And he is giving them a vision to reach those who are still unreached.

The Lord led Bishnu back to his grandfather's village to preach the gospel to those who had not yet heard it. God is still calling people to take up their cross and follow him. Praise God for Bishnu and others like him, and pray for the Galle to turn from idols and worship the one true God.



God is leading laborers to Nepal.

“Go back home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how He has had mercy on you” (Mark 5:19 HCSB).

1 DEAF PEOPLES. Pray for Tom,* a Deaf believer who has a passion for sharing his faith. Pray that he will continue to understand the Scriptures more each day, and that God will give him favor as he shares the good news.

2 BURKINA FASO. Pray for the Baptist university students in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, as they hold evangelism events and show the JESUS film. Pray that there will be effective follow-up and a plan for discipleship.

3 SOUTH ASIA. The Barmer district of Rajasthan is a desert area. There, people are very poor and mostly illiterate. Christians have tried ministering to the people, but have seen no visible fruit. Pray that God will draw the people of the Barmer district to himself.

4 HAZARA PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN. Please pray that the Lord will raise up more leaders among the Hazara people. Pray that appropriate training will be given for existing leaders. Also, please pray for God’s leading in finding the right place to start a ministry to the poor.

5 SOUTH ASIA. The Gujarati-speaking Bania is an unreached people group

located in the Indian state of Gujarat. Ask the Lord to raise up laborers who will share the good news with the over two million Bania.

6 ITALY. Thank you for praying for the two new Bible studies that were started recently in Rome, Italy. Praise the Lord that new people have been attending! Ask that they will come to know Jesus as their Savior as a result of these outreaches.

7 KHMER OF CAMBODIA. Praise the Lord for the twenty Khmer Christians who made a public profession of faith by being baptized! Please pray that these new Christians will grow in wisdom and in love for the Lord, by faithful devotion to the study of the Scriptures and obedience to God’s commands.

8 SOUTH ASIA. More than sixteen million people live in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Pray that Bangladeshi Christians will boldly share the gospel with the lost, disciple new Christians, and model biblical leadership so that healthy churches are planted and multiplied in Sylhet.

9 RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL. Please pray for Charles* and Dawn,* who are seasoned church planters. They have been called to establish a healthy Baptist church in Botafogo--an area of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Pray for

Charles’s health; he had a heart attack in November of last year.

10 WEST AFRICA. Pray for Jana, who has recently joined an IMB team in West Africa as a journeyman. She arrived in March and is in the midst of a huge life transition. Pray for her as she learns the language and culture and builds new friendships.

11 SOUTH ASIA. There are 108 million Bhojpuri people, but only 0.2 percent of them are Christians. They find their strength in their numbers, and not the hope found in Christ. Pray for the Bhojpuri people to come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

12 HUNGARY. Praise the Lord, who has provided a meeting space for Agora Gellert church plant in Budapest! Continue to pray that God will guide them to the place he has for them to best reach that community.

13 SOUTH ASIA. The Kashmir region remains highly contested by India and Pakistan. As a result, the people there experience continuous unrest. Pray for God to give peace to the people of Kashmir and that they will find security in Christ alone.

14 BOTSWANA. Please pray for a newly arrived missionary couple who will be a part of the leadership of the new seminary. Pray for them to learn the language well as they build relationships with pastors and students.

15 IRANIANS OF TURKEY. Many of the Iranians in Turkey who are connected to believers are on a refugee status. Additionally, other Iranians are not on refugee status, and they have continued access to their home countries. Believers desire to build relationships with them as well. Please pray that they will encounter such Iranians.



Mosques dot the landscape of Kashmir.

16 SOUTH ASIA. God is at work among the Ho people of India. He is calling them out of their animistic religion and into relationship with himself, the one true God of the universe. Praise God for this work and pray for the Ho to take the gospel to others who are waiting to hear it.

17 EAST ASIA. A new theological training center opened in March. Pray for the attendance to rise, and for a possible start date for yet another of these much-needed centers.

18 SOUTH ASIA. Bhutan, a small nation in the Himalayas of South Asia, is isolated both geographically and culturally. The majority of the population is Buddhist. Pray God will extend mercy, remove Satan's blinding influence, and open hearts to the gospel.

19 SAUDI ARABS OF SAUDI ARABIA. When Saudi Arabs come to faith, discipleship is challenging. Please pray that these Arabs, loved by God, will read the Bible and find people who can help them study it.

20 KAZAKHS OF KAZAKHSTAN. Please intercede for every segment of Kazakh society: children, university students, couples, families, and pensioners. Pray for dreams and visions of Jesus among the lost, and ask that many will be drawn to him. Pray for Christians to stay strong and grow in the Lord.

21 SOUTH ASIA. A former Hindu gave up a lucrative position to dedicate his life to sharing the gospel with South Indian Muslims. He has faced much persecution but continues to faithfully share truth. Pray for God to give him joy and strength today.

22 ZAMBIA. Please continue to pray for Houston,* a home missionary to the Nkoya people. He is searching for people with whom he

can share Jesus and help them grow to spiritual maturity in healthy churches.

23 SOUTH ASIA. Pray for Christians in India who live among Muslim and Hindu neighbors yet are afraid to share the gospel with them. Pray for God to give Christians boldness and discernment as they go and share the good news with the lost.

24 THE AMAZON BASIN. Some workers ask: "Please pray for our family as we adjust to being back in the Amazon basin after a brief medical leave spent in our homeland. Pray for stamina, energy, and health as we get back into the swing of things. Also, ask God to open doors and guide us in the process of starting a business in our town."

25 CENTRAL ASIA. Please intercede for the Uzbek church. As some mature Christians continue to work among this community, they have discovered many deeply rooted problems among local Christians. Please ask the Holy Spirit to convict and guide the Christians as the mature Christians meet with them, share truth, and disciple leaders.

26 SOUTH ASIA. Pray that God will transform the nation of Pakistan. Pray for him to give the lost a desire to know the Savior. Pray for the church to be sacrificially obedient. Pray for God to bring more laborers into this harvest field.

27 EAST ASIA. Pray that Christians will trust God to provide for their every need as they serve bivocationally. Pray that God will bless the Ross* family's new fermented vegetable stand. Pray that he will provide time for them to continue sharing the gospel, planting churches, and discipling those in their lives.

28 MYANMAR. Hugh* has been called to pastor a church. He knows the Bible well and has a heart for



God is working in hearts of people across South Asia.

evangelism. He knows that this is what God has called him to do, but he struggles with insecurity and needs a lot of encouragement. Pray for boldness and confidence in the Lord as he starts this church.

29 SOUTH ASIA. Pray that God will do such a mighty work in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Pakistan that the South Asian church will be a mission force. Pray that they will begin taking the gospel to the ends of the earth for His glory.

30 MIGRANT WORKERS OF MEXICO. The migrant farm workers of northern Mexico spend months away from home. Christians visit and share Bible stories in the camps during the evening hours. Pray that the Lord will call more harvest laborers to join in this work to spread the gospel across Mexico.

31 MALAWI. The seminary board has recognized that Baptist Theological Seminary, Malawi, needs assistance with administration. They are currently interviewing people for the office manager position. Pray that God will provide a godly and qualified office manager.



Fishers of men needed in the Maldives.

Bringing Light to the Maldives

The South Asian nation known as the Maldives comprises a cluster of 1,190 tropical islands in the Indian Ocean. Clear blue waters, exotic marine life, and tropical diversity make the Maldives a popular tourist destination. On the surface, the four hundred thousand people of the Maldives seem to have it made in their remote island paradise.

However, the Maldivian government has a tight grip on its people and even requires its citizens to be Muslim. The nation is shaped by the Islamic code of Shariah, which does not easily allow for any other religious sentiments. Such is the desire for the government to control exposure to anything other than Islam, that even tourists may only bring one personal Bible.

The one true God of the universe, who formed these islands and their people, is not bound by the laws of men. Pray for the Father to draw the Maldivian people to himself. Pray for the gospel to go forth in the Maldives. Pray that God will call many to become fishers of men in this land.

SOUTH ASIA

SOUTH ASIA—A KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLORS, A CACOPHONY OF SOUNDS, AND A BUFFET OF FLAVORS—IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF FOUR WORLD RELIGIONS. MORE THAN A BILLION SOUTH ASIAN EYES ARE SEARCHING FOR HOPE.



1.6 BILLION PEOPLE



The 1.6 billion people of South Asia are concentrated in an area less than half the size of the USA.

1,720 UPGs

With over 1,700 unreached people groups, **SOUTH ASIA** has the largest unreached people group population in the world: **1.5 billion**



**Names changed*

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