

PRAY

India



FOR THE PERSECUTED

LOCATION & OVERVIEW:

India is surrounded by the Bay of Bengal in the east, the Arabian Sea in the west, and the Indian Ocean to the south. The Hindu nationalist organization Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has seen a 20 percent increase in membership. Its emboldened base seeks to forcibly unite India under Hinduism despite the country's great diversity of languages, cultures and religions.

MAJOR RELIGION:

About 80 percent of Indians are Hindus, and more than 10 percent are Muslims. India is also the birthplace of Buddhism.

PERSECUTOR:

The main persecutors are well-organized Hindu extremist groups, local governments and nationalist Hindus.



FOLLOWING CHRIST HERE:

Hindu-nationalist informants live in nearly every village and report on the activities of Christians, resulting in attacks and arrests. When Christians are attacked, they often drop charges against their attackers to show forgiveness as a witness for Christ.

ACCESS TO BIBLES:

Even though India has one of the largest Bible societies in the world, many rural Christians have never had access to a Bible. Bibles remain unaffordable for those who suffer severe poverty resulting from oppression in Hindu- and Muslim-controlled areas. In addition, the remoteness of some areas and widespread illiteracy continue to pose challenges for Bible distribution.

PRAY FOR:

How to pray for INDIA

- Pray for pastors in southern India who minister to the Banjara tribe.
- Pray for Christian organizations, as many are being shut down by new government regulations.
- Pray for those experiencing increased persecution from Hindu extremists.
- Pray for the 150 new churches planted in unreached areas.