

# **Advancing Native Missions Visit**

## **BRCC Missionaries**

- Bombay Teen Challenge (Independent) Mumbai, India Red light district
- Chase Wood (Good News Jail and Prison Ministry) Annapolis, MD
- Regin & Heidi Guttesen, (GLO) Italy
- · Larry & Dianne Matthews (Wycliffe) Papua, Indonesia
- Tim & Maureen McAlhaney-(SIM) Kijabe, Kenya
- · James Marzuki (ANM) Indonesia
- Lee & Carol Short (Life Savers) Honduras and the Dominican Republic
- Damir Spolarjic (ANM) Croatia
- Himalayan Inland Missions (HIM)-India
- Touch of Christ (Independent) Iran 10/40 Window
- International Christian Concern-persecuted church
- Mike and Marsha Slone (Navigators) Annapolis, MD
- ELIC-China

### **India Missions**

Since 1983, HIM has provided for, educated, and spread the Gospel to orphaned and impoverished children throughout the Himalayan region. It provides housing, basic necessities, and an education to children who otherwise would go without. These children also learn about and receive the love and joy of Christ, and His life-changing Gospel.

HIM also operates a village school and a medical clinic. The children receive an otherwise unavailable education while simultaneously learning about God's great and glorious power and love. The building also serves as a child development center where, for two hours a day, six days a week, malnourished children can receive a nutritious meal, tutoring, and a time of games and worship.

HIM's medical clinic has become a focal point for healing in surrounding regions. The clinic's primary physician, begins handing out numbers to patients as early as 5:00 am. He works long hours and sees patients throughout the day. This clinic has provided healing and treatment to many who would otherwise go untreated. Through it, many lives are being touched by the love of Jesus. Finally, HIM continues to preach the Gospel throughout Himalayan villages. Through their works, many have heard the Gospel of Jesus for the first time. All praise and glory be to God for this and HIM's various other works!

#### India

In 2023, India surpassed China as the world's most populous nation. India is therefore also the world's largest democracy. Political, economic, and social challenges all place a heavy burden on the government. Pray that the government will choose to build on the progress of recent decades, especially to preserve and protect human dignity, rights, and freedoms. The current government has been operating on a Hindutva (Hindu nationalist) platform. This has brought about intensifying persecution of other religions, increasing re-Hinduization/reconversion of Dalit and tribal groups, and the introduction of many barriers of foreign Christian mission in India. The government's aggressive stance to defend Hinduism – and persecute other faiths – has emboldened religious violence by radical Hindu groups.

Population: 1,428,627,663

Languages: Constitutionally there are 22 official languages. The official language is Hindi (spoken by 40% of the population). English is a subsidiary official language

Literacy Rate: 71%
% Christian: 5.8%
% Evangelical: 2.2%
Largest Religion: Hindu
% Unevangelized: 43%
Persecution ranking: 11/50

## **PRAYER FOCUS**

Pray for Bombay Teen Challenge:

- For safety and good health for their children, staff, and students.
- For medical outreach teams that are in the field every day.
- For children, teens, and women still trapped in slavery worldwide.

Pray for Himalayan Inland Mission:

- For the financial needs of the ministry to be met.
- For new classrooms to be built at the school.
- For safety and protection, wisdom, and guidance from the Lord.
- For the Lord to give the missionaries boldness and grace to share His love with their community.