

# PRAYER FOCUS

Published by Ethnos Asia Ministries (EAM) as a Prayer Guide on Access-Restricted Nations in Asia (ARNA).

## NEPAL

### GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES

In 2008, Nepal was declared a secular state after the success of the communist movement in 2006. This paved the way for the abolition of the monarchy. Christian missionaries were allowed to enter the country thus, leading to the increase of Christian conversion in the Himalayan region.

Our country team has been joyfully working to make the Gospel known in far-flung areas, seizing every opportunity to make Christ relevant to their communities. "This is our strategy. We engage in the unbeliever's life by giving them food, water, and cold drinks. What they want to eat, we just treat them. If one cup of coffee or tea will bring that person to the Lord, why don't we spend that? When they come to know the Lord, we disciple them and empower them to do the same thing," said one of our workers.

Another worker said, "I am involved in a project that helps children with cleft lip and palate. A cleft lip is a deformity at birth, but people do not understand this condition. When other people see a child like this, they think the child is demon-possessed. They say that it is because of the sins of their parents and ancestors. We cry with them and listen to their stories. They talk about the difficult times they went through with the birth of their deformed child. Because of their needs, their hearts are open. We



*"We engage in the unbeliever's life by giving them food, water and cold drinks."*

share with them the good news, that there is Someone who loves them no matter how they look, no matter what their background is, no matter what society says. There is one person who really loves, cares, and thinks about them. We show the love of God to them and personally touch their lives. The people are very receptive. They were thankful for this work.

We have shared the gospel with over 3,000 people through this cleft lip program. This has been an effective program in winning souls for Christ.

We also take care of widows and orphans. There are so many widows in



the mountain regions. They have no citizenship, no facilities at home. During the winter, usually they die, at least three or four of them, because nobody cared for them; having no food or warm clothes. We also have lots of orphans, many of whom were entrusted to the Buddhist monasteries. We take care of them and help them with food and education. It is such a blessing to be able to affect the lives of these widows and orphans as we lead them to the saving knowledge of Christ our Lord."

Conversions are happening fast in Nepal. People are responding to the Gospel. The BBC itself reported this early this year. But Hindu adherents like former Deputy Prime Minister, Kamal Thapa, are lobbying for Nepal to return to becoming a Hindu state. Let us pray that he will not be successful in this endeavor.

Pray for our workers as they continue to take every opportunity to share the Gospel. Pray that God will preserve this nation for Christ.

**"Be very careful then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15 NIV)**

# Prayer Calendar

## June 2023

along the border.

**1 (THU) NEPAL** Our country team reports that many young people suffer from depression. Pray for them to have deep encounter with Christ.

**2 (FRI) NEPAL** Foreign manufacturing industries are demanding many workers from Nepal. Pray against exploitation as many youths are moving abroad to take their chances.

**3/4 (SAT/SUN) NEPAL** News about the rapid growth of Christianity is causing problems; Hindus are not happy about it. Pray for wisdom as Christians spread the Gospel, especially in remote areas.

**5 (MON) CHINA** The authorities continue to crack down on Christians. The court recently ordered a Protestant pastor and his wife to pay the equivalent of US\$25,000 for organizing 'illegal gatherings.' Pray for Christians to be protected from false accusations.

**6 (TUE) CAMBODIA** Cambodia is set to hold a general election for 23 July. Pray for a fair and peaceful election.

**7 (WED) CAMBODIA** Pray for wisdom and blessings upon our five young interpreters ages, 10 to 15, at our Functional English Center. They are a great help to our teachers.

**8 (THU) SRI LANKA** Praise God for the 90 participants in last month's discipleship training. Pray that God will use them to spread God's Word across this Buddhist-majority nation.

**9 (FRI) SRI LANKA** Pray for the protection of Christians from Buddhist and Hindu extremists.

**10/11 (SAT/SUN) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES** Pray for funds as Karen Bibles are made available to many on the run due to war

**12 (MON) KAREN BORDER COMMUNITIES** Pray that the Karen youth will remain hopeful, vigilant and focused on God's plan for them, despite the challenges of hearing the sound of airstrikes and shootings.

**13 (TUE) NE INDIA** Pray for comfort upon tribal Christians in Manipur who experienced extreme violence last month. Around 50 people were killed, churches burned and hundreds injured.

**14 (WED) NE INDIA** Pray for the authorities in Manipur to act with wisdom to bring a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Meitei Community and the tribal Christians.

**15 (THU) LAOS** Pray for the safety of the twelve Bru Core Team as they set out to share the vision and recruit potential trainees for the next Bru training (in August).

**16 (FRI) LAOS** Pray for our country team as they help to alleviate the trauma experienced by new Christian families who lost their houses and sources of livelihood due to persecution.

**17/18 (SAT/SUN) BANGLADESH** Pray as Myanmar and Bangladesh governments consider repatriating some Rohingya refugees to Rakhine State in a pilot project. Some Rohingya leaders reject the plan, saying they still cannot trust the Myanmar military.

**19 (MON) NORTH KOREA** Pray for God's provision and intervention in the current severe drought situation.

**20 (TUE) AFGHANISTAN** Women are barred from universities, leading to a shortage of professionals, including in the health sector. Pray for women to have access to education.

**21 (WED) AFGHANISTAN** The country is at the highest risk of famine. Pray for supernatural provision.

**22 (THU) MYANMAR** Over 2.6 million people have fled since the coup in February 2021. Pray as this unresolved conflict tears the nation and families apart.

**23 (FRI) MYANMAR** Sittwe, the capital of Rakhine State, was severely damaged by typhoon Mocha last month. Pray for comfort and provision as communities rebuild their lives.

**24/25 (SAT/SUN) BHUTAN** Pray for changes in government laws so that Christians will be free to practice their faith without fear of being arrested.

**26 (MON) VIETNAM** Educational completion is much lower for children in poor households. Pray that these children will learn to value education.

**27 (TUE) VIETNAM** Despite strict drug laws, Vietnam remains a significant drug-trafficking hub. Pray for effective ways to counter this problem.

**28 (WED) PAKISTAN** Pray for the three SowH trainings to be held in southern Pakistan from today until the 8th of July. We are expecting at least 30 participants in each training.

**29 (THU) PAKISTAN** Women from seven communities have received our Deborah training. Pray for these women to affect their families and communities as they are empowered through the teachings.

**30 (FRI) PAKISTAN** Pray for a peaceful resolution to the political unrest in this nation.