

A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to the  
2023 edition  
of the  
**15 Days  
of Prayer**  
for the  
**Hindu World**  
prayer guide!

**Hello Dear Friends,**

It is a joy to welcome you again to this year's **15 Days of Prayer for the Hindu World**. This tool is used around the world and we are encouraged to know that anyone who prays using this guide, is joining with so many others in an expression of God's love towards Hindu Peoples.

**Our theme this year is the Hindu Diaspora.**

The word 'diaspora' is a combination of two ancient Greek words, dia speiro, which mean "to sow over." Historically, 'diaspora' was first commonly used to refer to Greeks who spread out over the developing Hellenic world. In modern usage, 'diaspora' is a loosely defined term that describes a population, such as members of a religious or ethnic group, that has migrated and dispersed into different areas or regions, which are separate from the original geographic homeland that they are historically identified with.

The Hindu Diaspora is much too varied and widely dispersed to cover comprehensively in this short prayer guide. However, we will try to highlight the significant experiences of this population and to focus our prayers on strategic locations where they have become established.

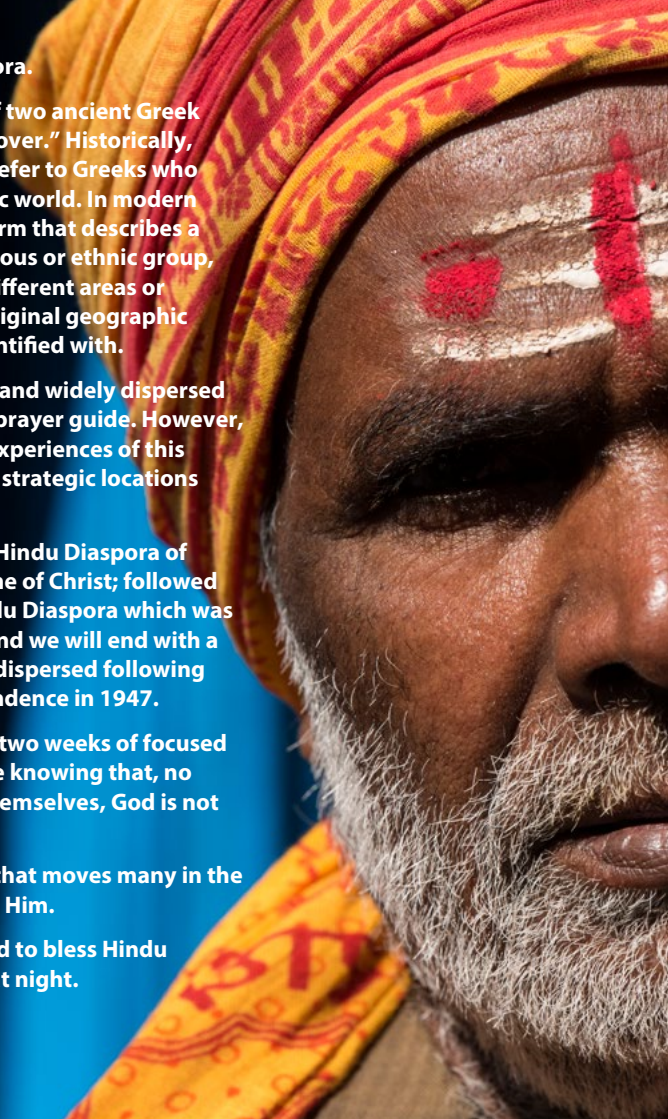
We will briefly touch upon the Ancient Hindu Diaspora of South East Asia which existed at the time of Christ; followed by a more in-depth look at the Old Hindu Diaspora which was dispersed mostly in the 19th century, and we will end with a look at the New Hindu Diaspora which dispersed following much of South Asia gaining it's independence in 1947.

With that in mind, we embark on these two weeks of focused prayer and we can pray with confidence knowing that, no matter where a diaspora Hindu finds themselves, God is not far from them.

**May your prayers be the gentle nudge that moves many in the Hindu Diaspora to seek God and to find Him.**

**Thank you for joining in praying for God to bless Hindu peoples, wherever they lay their head at night.**

**The Editors  
15 Days of Prayer International**



# What is Hinduism?

About 15 percent of the world's population identifies as Hindu. Hinduism is too varied and complex to describe as a singular religion. In fact, the very concept of religion itself is not well suited to describe most forms of Hinduism. Due to the complexity of Hinduism, we will not try to provide a complete understanding of it here.

Hindus adhere to many different religions, traditions, teachings, or belief systems and any Hindu person might have their own separate set of creeds, beliefs, etc. In some ways, it might be better to describe Hinduism as a culture rather than a religion or even a grouping of religions. Hinduism contains many faith movements, and yet is much more than just a religious marker.

## Who is a Hindu?

It is useful to recognize that the word "Hinduism" and the identifier "Hindu" is commonly and comfortably used, by Hindus themselves, to describe a broad set of ideas, cultural practices and collective identity. Within Hinduism, there is no central orthodoxy, creed or set of beliefs that can be used to determine who is a Hindu. There is no commonly accepted way that a Hindu could cease to be a Hindu, or for someone who wasn't born a Hindu to become one. A Hindu is born a Hindu, they do not become one by professing any particular set of beliefs, worshipping any specific god, or by an act of conversion.



## What are the origins of Hinduism?

Hinduism formed in South Asia millennia ago and it keeps morphing and changing even today. The long formation of Hinduism has produced a diverse collection of literature. However, while there are some sacred texts that are considered universally valuable, there is no one book of scripture that is held by all Hindus to be universally authoritative or that is equally revered by all Hindus. There is also a very large number of revered saints, gurus, authors and personalities who have each made their own contribution to the many Hinduisms but it is important to note that there is no single founder or event that Hindus give credit to for starting Hinduism.



# How did 15 Days start?

In 2016, Christians from around the world, who had been working to share the love of Christ with Hindu peoples, were inspired by Holy Spirit to revive a global prayer movement that had existed and interceded for Hindus in the 1990s. We believe that prayer is key to seeing a release of Christian workers who will share the Good News of Jesus with the Hindu world as well as release God's blessing upon Hindu peoples.

In the seven years since this prayer guide was reintroduced as a tool to encourage prayer many encouraging stories have been shared with us and we can truly say that there is a move of God among the nations, calling believers to intercede for Hindus.

It is our hope that this small tool helps make manifest the love that followers of Christ have for Hindu peoples; a love that includes a great desire for them to prosper and receive eternal salvation in Jesus.

## Who writes and publishes the guide?

The content for the prayer guide is usually collected from a diverse group of Christ-followers from around the globe. An editorial team then works to collate this material and to write their own in response to God's leading regarding the focus and theme.

## How do you decide what to pray for?

We accept submissions from all over the world. We are particularly excited to receive material from people whom live with, work with, and have experience in loving Hindu people.

If you are interested in mobilizing prayer for a particular need in the Hindu world, please contact us using the contact form on our website: [pray15days.org](http://pray15days.org) or send an e-mail to [info@pray15days.org](mailto:info@pray15days.org)



“AFTER Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”

John 17:1-3





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First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people...

1 Timothy 2:1

INTRODUCTION

# Praying for Hindus

The heart behind this guide is one of blessing. We believe that God wants to bless Hindu peoples everywhere and that the greatest blessing of all is for a community to encounter the matchless love of Jesus and to receive His free gift of eternal grace. While you are praying, we hope that you see and pursue the themes of mercy, overwhelming grace, genuine love and clear truth in the pages of this guide.

We also encourage you to take Paul's words to Timothy to heart when he said, "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people..." 1 Timothy 2:1

Thanksgiving in particular is a powerful tool when interceding for the different peoples of the world. We encourage you to practice thanking God for Hindu peoples around the world.

..... **And remember...**

Hindus are the second-largest, least-reached religious group in the world. History has proven many times that prayer proceeds the spread of the good news of Jesus. Of all the cross-cultural ministers that the global church sends out, less than 2 percent are focused on sharing the gospel with Hindu peoples. As a result, Hindus still live without any meaningful access to the message of Christ. Please pray for Hindus to be blessed, to be fruitful and for each and every Hindu to be given the chance to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please also take some time to look up the scriptures and to allow the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers, and to share with you His heart for the Hindu world.

**Thank you for praying with us this year.**







PARTING THOUGHTS

# When the Nations become our Neighbours.

The apostle Paul wrote, "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Worldwide, there are more people moving from the country of their birth to another country than at any other time in history. Unprecedented levels of peace, ease of travel and increased openness to receive new immigrants, are just a few of the conditions that have led to an unprecedented creation of new diasporas, on a scale never before seen in history.

In many cases, waves of migrants land on the shores of nations that already have a large number of Christ followers. This opens new and exciting opportunities for a Church that is supposed to long for the message of Christ to spread amongst all peoples of the earth's, to obediently share the love of Jesus with their new neighbours, and through them, possibly back to their homelands.

However, the majority of Hindus still remain outside of the immediate local witness of the Body of Christ. To reach them will still require committed cross cultural ministers. Christ said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..." Matthew 28:19-20 ESV

We give thanks that the growth of the Hindu Diaspora is providing new opportunities for Hindus to hear and experience the love of Jesus. And at the same time, we remember, Hindu peoples who remain out of the reach of the Good News, particularly in South Asia. We invite you to pray that the Body of Christ will be moved to obediently reach out to Hindus, everywhere that they are found, even if that requires great sacrifice.

**Thank you for praying together  
with us this year.**