

Caribbean Coastlines

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During the years that indentured labourers were exported from South Asia, over half a million were cast upon Caribbean coastlines. Close to 85% of this Old Diaspora were Hindus, mostly from North India. While some chose to return to South Asia after their years of indenture were finished, the majority chose to stay on.

The British, French and Dutch all maintained colonies in the Caribbean during this time and indentured labourers found themselves working mostly on sugar cane plantations in such diverse places as; Trinidad, Jamaica, British Guyana, Martinique, French Guiana, Guadeloupe and Suriname. They have since spread throughout the Caribbean. Over time, Hindus who ended up in the Caribbean interacted with local cultures and created a manifestation of Hinduism that is accepted as a part of Caribbean society, with variations that reflect the diversity that is characteristic of the region.

With the easing of immigration policies in North America, many Indo-Caribbean Hindus immigrated to the United States and other countries. These communities can be referred to as a “double diaspora” as they trace many of their traditions back to where a synthesis was developed during their time in the Caribbean, as well as to their origin in India.

Today Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago as well as Guyana claim the majority of the Hindu population that is descended from the original indentured labourers who stayed. Compromising around 20% of each country’s population, their numbers add up to over half a million all together.



HOW CAN WE PRAY?



Please pray that followers of Jesus who live in or near Hindus in these communities will be emboldened to share their love of Jesus with their Hindu neighbours. (MARK 4:21-22)

Pray that Hindus living in the Caribbean region will have profound encounters with Holy Spirit and that the truth of Jesus’s great love for them will be made clear. (JOHN 14:15-17)

Pray God will do a work through entire Hindu family networks and that they will receive invitations to enter Christ’s Kingdom to celebrate the marriage supper of the Lamb. (REVELATION 19:9)