DAY 10 · NOVEMBER 14

New Hindu Diaspora - An Overview

The third era, what we call the New Hindu Diaspora, began after 1947, when British India became independent. During this era, Hindus started wilfully immigrating in search of education, economic opportunities and in some cases to escape the conflict created by the British partition of South Asia.

Many of the New Diaspora Hindus spread out to places that had not previously been associated with the Old Hindu Diaspora. Those who went to areas that contained a significant population of Old Diaspora Hindus, such as in Malaysia, contributed to the further establishment of that community.

According to the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, the official overseas Indian population is 32.1 million. Data suggests that around twenty-five million of these are Hindus. The Hindu Diaspora's strengths lay in their wide geographic distribution, the relatively high degree of education that most New Diaspora Hindus have, and strong links to their home country which help maintain their cultural identity.

In 2002, the Indian government recognized the importance of ties that exist between India and its diaspora communities when it provided lifelong resident visas to non-Indian citizens who could prove that up to three generations previously their ancestors were born in India or were permanent residents of India. This was later extended even further back for those who could prove that they were descendants of indentured labourers who were taken by the British out of British India.

HOW CAN WE PRAY?

Pray that Hindus in this New Hindu Diaspora will follow Christ and will be a witness to the many Unreached People Groups that they are connected to in India. (1 JOHN 3:1)

Pray that the children of Hindus who have settled and established themselves in various lands around the world, would discover the good news of Jesus and turn to him in their youth, so that they have a lifetime to share the great love that Jesus has for Hindu peoples. (ISAIAH 40:11)

Pray that the great light of Jesus and His wonderful love would shine upon Hindu communities around the world and that they would be drawn to His matchless grace. (2 CORINTHIANS 4:3)