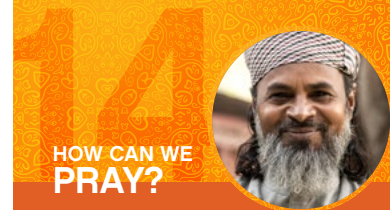


The Gulf States

Despite the presence of very early trade connections through the Persian Gulf, there were few established Hindu communities in this region until the beginning of an oil-fuelled construction boom in the 1970's. First attracted by jobs in construction, later Hindus began arriving to work in sectors such as engineering, health care and financial management. These wealthier immigrants to the gulf have organized the building of temples in Yemen, Bahrain, The United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Some of the Hindu Diaspora in gulf states, particularly those who work in higher skills industries, have made their permanent home there. However, quite a large number of the Hindus living in the gulf states are individuals, men and woman, single or married, who leave their families to work on multi-year contracts.

These labourers send a large amount of money to their families back in South Asia. They are also exposed to significantly different worldviews during their time outside of South Asia, from their Muslim employers and also from Christian coworkers. These interactions provide a unique opportunity for Hindus from South Asia to hear the good news and to even take that good news back with them to South Asia if they choose to return.



HOW CAN WE PRAY?

Pray for a continued move of God, as workers from diverse regions and faith mix on the job and in the community, that believers may have the opportunity to share their faith with their Hindu co-workers.

(1 PETER 3:15)

Pray that Hindus who discover the love of Jesus while working abroad, will carry their testimony back with them to South Asia and share joyfully and boldly with their families.

(PSALM 72:8)

Pray that Hindus who remain in Gulf states will continue to meet followers of Christ who also reside there and that they will meet communities of faith that invite them into a deeper relationship with Jesus and that they will receive the peace that only Jesus can give.

(MARK 16:15)