

### **Kurds of Turkey (Central Asia)**

The Kurds are a large ethnic group of about 25 million people who have always lived in the same place, and who trace their roots back to the Medes of ancient Persia the frontier of what is now Iraq, Iran and Turkey, more than 2,500 years ago. In fact, the Magi, or wise men, who traveled from the East to deliver their gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the newborn Jesus in Bethlehem were most likely Zoroastrian priests, ancestors of the modern Kurds. The Kurds are tribal people and many of them lived, until recently, a nomadic lifestyle in the mountainous regions of Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran. Their refuge has always been the mountains, with their steep pastures and fertile valleys. They are Kurmanji speakers. Most Kurds are Muslims, and today about 75% are members of the majority Sunni branch, at least nominally. As many as four million Kurds are Shiite Muslims, living mostly in Iran where the Shiite faith is predominant. Pray that God would do a great work among the Kurds and that we will see the gospel spread rapidly among them.

MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rop3=114402&rog3=TU>



### **Rajbansi of India and Nepal (South Asia)**

The Rajbansi are one of about 110 different ethnic groups who live in the small, mountainous country of Nepal. Their almost forgotten, rugged land lies sheltered at the foot of the Himalayan Mountains, sandwiched between India to the south and Tibet to the north. Most live in India and the eastern section of the Jhapa District and in the adjoining Morang District of Nepal. The Rajbansi are Hindus who worship millions of gods and goddesses. Every village has a separate hut dedicated to the worship of the creation goddess, Kali. Festivals are called Pawni. Though they celebrate the Hindu festivals of Dasai and Tihar, the Rajbansi do not observe them the same way Hindus do in India. The government is fiercely opposed to any form of evangelism and has implemented severe restrictions. Pray that God will strengthen and protect the small number of believers among the Rajbansi in Nepal. Pray that God would bless plans to begin church planting among the Rajbansi. Pray that God will touch the hearts of Nepal's government leaders so the restrictive anti-evangelism laws will be lifted. Pray that the Rajbangsi New Testament will be completed quickly.

MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rop3=108268&rog3=IN>



### **Purig-Pa of Pakistan, India and Tibet (South & Central Asia)**

Few sources list the existence of the small Purik people group in China. It is not known what nationality, if any, they have been classified under by the government. Purig-Pa means 'Of Tibetan Origin.' The Purik are one of the ancient peoples of northern India. They are a rare example of Tibetan Buddhists who recanted from their faith and embraced another religion; in this case, Islam. The Purik language, called Purig-Skad, is a hybrid of Ladakh Tibetan and the Balti language. Since their conversion to Islam, their language has been influenced by Balti. With the exception of half a dozen villages, all the Purik population in India are Muslims of the fanatical Shi'a sect. It is uncertain if the small number of Purik in Tibet have reconverted to Tibetan Buddhism, or if they are practicing Muslims. Presently there are only three known Purik Christians in India; all live outside Kargil. There are no known Purik believers in Tibet. The Purik are considered extremely resistant to the gospel. Pray that their hearts will open to the gospel and that they would have a desire to know God.

MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rop3=113383&rog3=PK>



**PRAY**  
ONE minute...TWO times a day...  
for THREE unreached people groups

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