



The Hindustani of Suriname

History of the Hindustani in Suriname

The Hindustani, also known as East Indians, are of Indian descent and began arriving in Suriname in 1873 as indentured laborers. They were immediately put to work on the coffee, cocoa, and sugar cane plantations. After completing their contracts and obtaining their freedom, most chose to remain and establish a home.

Though many are still farmers, some owning extensive farmland to this day, others have become involved in all sectors of society, including trade, transport and civil service.

World Team

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God is Moving

For over 100 years, the truth of the gospel has been preached among the Hindustani without much success... *until now*. God is moving in the hearts of the Hindustani, and some are coming to know him. They are turning from their countless idols to worship the one true God.

World Team, in partnership with local organizations, is training local believers to evangelize and disciple in their own communities. House churches are forming and growing in spiritual maturity. This is a unique time in the history of the Hindustani of Suriname.

Language The Hindustani speak Sarnami, the third most spoken language in Suriname after the official language, Dutch, and the Creole street language.

Suriname is one of the most multilingual societies in the world. Many people speak at least three languages. In all, sixteen languages are spoken, including African, Amerindian, Javanese, Chinese, and Taki-Taki—a combination of several of these.

Religion As many as 75% of Hindustanis are Hindus—a religion that worships a pantheon of 330 million gods. An additional 20% of Hindustanis are Muslims, leaving about 5% professed to be Christians.

Suriname has the largest Muslim population in Latin America and the Caribbean, with about 98,000.

People and Places Suriname is a small country in South America and sits on the northeast coast between Guyana and French Guiana, with Brazil to the south.

Much of the charm and appeal of Suriname lies in its diverse cultures and ethnic groups. A history of colonial occupation, immigration and slavery has contributed to the incredible mixture of cultures.

A Church Within Walking Distance

A Hindustani Church Within Walking Distance for Every Hindustani

This is World Team's goal. After a century of unresponsiveness to the gospel message, today, more Hindustani are saying yes to Jesus and now want to reach their own communities for Christ.

World Team is working with a partnership of a national church association (UNIE), Surinamese Christian leaders, and teams from several countries including, India, Trinidad, and the US, to reach out to the Hindustani.

In addition to the emphasis on discipleship of new believers and house church leaders, there is a growing focus on leadership training, church outreach projects and marriage and family seminars. House churches are growing, and new leaders are catching a vision for church multiplication.

An annual summer camp for Christian Hindustani teenagers challenges them to take a stand for Christ among their peers. Family nights use movies and other activities as an avenue for discussion and fellowship for all ages.

Jesus commanded us to pray that the Lord of the harvest would send workers into the harvest. Large groups of Hindu and Muslim Hindustani, and Muslim Javanese remain to be reached.

Please join the Suriname field in prayer that God would raise up and send new disciplers, mentors, and church planters to join the work among the Hindustani.

Ministry Overview

People	Hindustani of Suriname
Language	Sarnami and Dutch
Location	Suriname
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership Development• Youth Discipleship Ministry• Evangelism and Discipleship• Women's Discipleship Ministry• Creative Arts• Church Planting

Suraj Kumaree worshipped idols all of her life. She was so deep in the bondage of idolatry that she started to have demonic attacks. Her body was weakened by severe pain, and there seemed to be no way out for her.

A local believer took a personal interest in Kumaree and started to share the love of Christ with her. Seeing God's love demonstrated, she received Christ as her Savior.

The first thing she did as a new believer was to gather all her idols and objects of her past life and destroy them. Immediately after, she was set free from her pains.

Kumaree has now devoted her life to the Lord and is reading her Bible, praying and going to Church.



Join the Team!

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Glorifying God by working together to establish reproducing churches focusing on the unreached peoples of the world