



Shine! — Prayer Guide — India

Today we are praying especially for India — the world's most populous nation, a land of dazzling diversity, ancient faith, and a Church that refuses to stop growing, even under mounting pressure. A country God loves deeply.

India is home to over 1.4 billion people — more than any other nation on earth. It holds more than 2,000 distinct people groups, over 190 languages, and a landscape stretching from the Himalayas to tropical coastlines. It is now the world's fastest-growing major economy, launching missions to the Moon and Mars, while in its villages and city slums, hundreds of millions still live in poverty. India also holds more unreached people groups than any other nation on earth — over 2,000 communities with little or no access to the Gospel.

Christians make up just over 2% of India's population — around 30 million believers, surrounded by an ocean of Hindu-majority neighbours. Yet in state after state, that small minority faces rising hostility. Twelve Indian states now enforce anti-conversion laws that criminalise sharing the Gospel. In 2026, India recorded its highest-ever levels of violence against Christians on Open Doors' World Watch List — the worst in the organisation's history of tracking the nation. Pastors are arrested on false charges, churches are shut down, and mobs storm Sunday services accusing believers of "forced conversion" simply for singing hymns.

And yet — the Church in India will not stop growing. In the hardest, most unreached corners of the north, house churches are multiplying. In the south and northeast, believers worship freely and send missionaries across the nation and the world. Despite everything, India's Christians remain some of the most joyful, resilient, and evangelistic believers on earth.

So let's pray with faith — because God sees every pastor threatened for preaching, every family shamed for following Jesus, every child trafficked or forgotten. And He is listening.



1. EXALTING JESUS

Jesus to Be Enthroned Across India

Pray for: Jesus Christ to be exalted as Lord across every state of India — from the Himalayan north to the tropical south, from the deserts of Rajasthan to the mega-cities of Delhi and Mumbai. Pray for the name of Jesus to be lifted above every caste barrier, every false god, and every spirit of fear and division. Pray for a fresh wave of the Holy Spirit to sweep across this vast and diverse nation.

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.” Philippians 2:9–10

A Spirit of Hope and New Life

Pray for: The people of India — who carry the weight of ancient caste hierarchies, generational poverty, and religious division — to encounter the freedom and hope found only in Jesus Christ. Pray that the wounds of caste discrimination and communal division would be met by the healing power of God. Pray for a new generation of Indian children to grow up knowing they are loved and chosen by God, whatever caste or community they were born into.

“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:28

Jesus Glorified Through His Church

Pray for: The Church in India — young, growing, and courageous — to reflect the true beauty and power of Christ. Pray for pastors and church leaders to stand firm under pressure, to preach boldly, and to love sacrificially even those who oppose them. Pray for the Church to continue serving India’s poorest and most marginalised communities — shining with the light of Jesus in every dark place.

“To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:21

Let’s Pray Together... “Jesus, we love You. Be the King of India. Bring Your freedom and Your light to every corner of this land.”

2. ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS — HOPE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

For over a decade, Hindu nationalist movements have grown in influence across India, promoting the idea that to be truly Indian is to be Hindu. Twelve states — including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and, most recently, Maharashtra — have passed anti-conversion laws that criminalise “unlawful” religious conversion. In practice, these laws are increasingly used to target pastors, house churches, and even acts of Christian charity as suspected conversion attempts.



An End to False Accusations and Unjust Arrests

Pray for: The pastors, ministers, and believers detained or imprisoned under India's anti-conversion laws — with India now recording more Christian detentions than any other nation on Open Doors' World Watch List. Pray for false charges to be dropped, for fair hearings, and for police to act with justice rather than under pressure from extremist groups. Pray for church leaders in Rajasthan and Maharashtra whose congregations have been shut down and whose members have been beaten simply for gathering to worship.

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.” Proverbs 14:34

Protection for Vulnerable Congregations

Pray for: The house churches, Bible colleges, and children's homes now under suspicion and surveillance across states with anti-conversion laws — including the Hindustan Bible Institute in Jaipur, and congregations across Dausa, Alwar and Ajmer whose churches have been forced to close. Pray for protection for ordinary Christians attacked while at worship — like the believers assaulted in Maharashtra in February 2026 — and for pastors like Raj Uday, badly beaten simply for leading his congregation.

“No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you.” Isaiah 54:17

Justice, Freedom and the Constitution Upheld

Pray for: India's constitutional guarantee of religious freedom — Article 25 — to be honoured in practice, not just in law. Pray for judges, lawyers, and human rights advocates challenging discriminatory anti-conversion legislation. Pray against the momentum building toward a national anti-conversion law, and for India's diversity of faiths to be genuinely protected and celebrated.

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.” Proverbs 31:8

Let's Pray Together... “Jesus, please bring justice and freedom for every believer facing false accusation in India. Protect Your Church and give courage to those under pressure.”

3. CHRISTIANS UNDER FIRE

India now ranks 12th on Open Doors' 2026 World Watch List of the most dangerous places to be a Christian — up from 31st in 2013. The country's violence score has reached its highest level since records began, and India recorded more Christian detentions in 2025 than any other nation in the world. The United Christian Forum documented over 800 anti-Christian incidents in a single year, concentrated in Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand.

Believers Targeted for Their Faith

Pray for: Christians across northern and central India who live with the daily reality of mob violence, false accusation, and social exclusion. In September 2025, extremists stormed a Sunday service in Jaipur, beating worshippers who defended their pastor from false conversion charges — several were hospitalised, and it



was the pastor, not his attackers, who was later arrested. In Jharkhand, a woman who had been sharing her faith with neighbours was killed by fellow villagers, her body undiscovered for a week. Pray for protection, courage, and the peace only Jesus gives.

*“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 5:10*

Christian Leaders Who Speak Truth

Pray for: Pastors, bishops, and Christian leaders across India who continue preaching and serving despite threats, surveillance, and false accusation. Pray for organisations like the Evangelical Fellowship of India’s Religious Liberty Commission, who documented nearly 920 incidents targeting Christians in a single year — the highest number ever recorded. Pray for their voices to be heard, their evidence taken seriously, and their courage sustained.

“Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38–39

Let’s Pray Together... “Jesus, please protect Your people in India. Like the early disciples, help them be brave for You even when they are afraid.”

4. POVERTY, TRAFFICKING & CHILDREN AT RISK

Behind India’s booming economy lies a hidden crisis. Millions of children are trapped in child labour, and human trafficking devastates families across the country — especially among the poorest, most marginalised communities, including Dalit and tribal families. Every year, hundreds of thousands of children are exploited for labour, begging, or worse.

Children Trapped in Labour and Trafficking

Pray for: The millions of Indian children still working instead of attending school — in brick kilns, stone quarries, spinning mills, and domestic service. Pray for the thousands of children trafficked every year, disproportionately girls, and disproportionately from Dalit and tribal communities already pushed to society’s margins. Pray for organisations rescuing and rehabilitating trafficked children, and for every vulnerable child to be found, protected, and given a future.

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14

The Poorest of the Poor — Caste, Poverty and Dignity

Pray for: India’s Dalit communities — historically called “untouchables” — who remain among the poorest and most discriminated-against people in the nation, including within the Church, where Dalit Christians still face prejudice from other believers. Pray for dignity, opportunity, and justice for those born into the lowest rungs of India’s caste system. Pray for the Church to lead the way in breaking down caste barriers, showing that in Christ there is neither high caste nor low.



“He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap.” 1 Samuel 2:8

Let’s Pray Together... “Father God, please protect the children of India from exploitation and poverty. Help every child, whatever their caste or background, to know they are precious to You.”

5. THE CHURCH & GOSPEL MISSION

India is home to more unreached people groups than any other nation on earth — over 2,000 communities with little or no Gospel witness, particularly across the Hindi-speaking north. Yet even here, the Church is growing. House church networks are multiplying in some of the most difficult regions, with new congregations being planted every single day.

The Gospel Advancing in the Hardest Places

Pray for: The vast unreached regions of northern India — the Ganges plains states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal, home to hundreds of millions of people, almost none of whom are Christian. Give thanks for house church networks planting dozens of new congregations every day, even amid persecution. Pray for the thousands of trained church planters and evangelists reaching villages that have never heard the name of Jesus.

“The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand.” Psalm 121:5

India as a Sending Nation

Pray for: The Indian Church to not only survive but multiply — training evangelists, planting churches among the unreached people groups within its own borders, and sending missionaries beyond them. Pray for theological training and discipleship to deepen, so the Church stays grounded in truth. Pray for a new generation of Indian missionaries to rise up — bold, Spirit-filled, and ready to reach the nations along the ancient trade routes stretching from India toward the Middle East.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

Let’s Pray Together... “Jesus, help Your church in India to be strong and brave, and to share Your love with every people and every place — even where no one has heard Your name.”

6. THE NOW GENERATION

India has one of the youngest populations on earth — hundreds of millions of children and young people, more than in almost any other nation. Amid pressure and poverty, a generation is rising who want to know Jesus for themselves — encountering Him in Sunday schools, campus fellowships, and children’s ministries across the country.

Children and Young People to Encounter Christ and Become 2BC Champions



Pray for: Children and young people across India to encounter Jesus personally — to know their identity in Him, whatever their caste, background, or economic status. Pray especially for children growing up in poverty, in trafficking-vulnerable communities, or in families under pressure for their faith — that they would know the love and security of their Heavenly Father. Pray for a generation of 2BC Champions to rise across India: knowing, loving, and sharing Jesus.

“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.” Joel 2:28

Healing and Strengthening Families on Mission for God

Pray for: Families across India under pressure — from poverty, from caste discrimination, from persecution for their faith. Pray for parents raising children in communities where following Jesus carries real cost. Pray for children rescued from labour or trafficking to find healing, belonging, and a future in Christ. Pray for the Church to be a place of dignity and restoration, raising up 2BC Champion Families on Mission for God.

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

Let's Pray Together... “Jesus, help children in India to know who they are in You. Heal their hearts and give them hope for the future.”

7. PROTECTION & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Freedom from Caste, Fear and False Gods

Pray for: Freedom from the spiritual strongholds that have shaped India for generations — the caste system that still traps millions in poverty and shame, the fear of ancestral spirits and false gods, and the ideology of religious nationalism that equates being Indian with being Hindu. Pray for the power of these strongholds to be broken by the name of Jesus, and for genuine religious freedom to take root for every Indian, of every faith.

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2 Corinthians 10:4

Healing for Survivors of Exploitation and Violence

Pray for: Women and girls across India who have suffered sexual violence, trafficking, and exploitation — among the highest numbers recorded anywhere in the world. Pray for survivors to receive medical care, trauma support, and the love of Jesus that heals the deepest wounds. Pray for stigma to be broken, for justice to be done, and for the Church to be a place of safety — not judgment — for every survivor.

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36

Let's Pray Together... “Jesus, please protect Your people in India. Push back the darkness and fill this land with Your light and Your peace.”



8. STRATEGIC PRAYER MOBILISATION

Intercessors Arising Across the Nation

Pray for: A movement of prayer to rise across every state of India — from megacities to remote villages, from university campuses to tribal communities. Pray for prayer networks to grow and unite across denominational lines, and for the Indian church to lead the world in bold, persistent intercession for their nation. The people of India need the world's prayers now.

“Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly.” Joel 2:15

India as a Blessing to the Nations

Pray for: India to rise as a centre of Gospel mission to its neighbours and beyond — Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and along the ancient trade routes reaching toward the Middle East. Pray for Indian missionaries and evangelists already serving, often with very little, to be sustained and multiplied. Pray that the God-given gifts of India — not just its economy and its people, but its faith, its resilience, and its Gospel fire — would be a blessing to the nations.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

Let's Pray Together... “Lord, help us to pray and bring Your peace to India and to all the nations of South Asia.”

9. Declaration over India

Lord Jesus, we lift the nation of India to You.

You are the God who sees every pastor arrested for preaching Your name. You see every child trafficked or forced into labour instead of school. You see every believer excluded for their caste or their faith. You see every family who has paid a price to follow You. And You love them all.

Let Your light shine across this vast and beautiful land.

Protect the persecuted. Free the exploited. Heal the broken.

Bring justice where anti-conversion laws are used to silence Your Church. Expose and break every network of caste discrimination, trafficking, and exploitation.

Raise up wise and courageous leaders. Bring unity to a nation still divided by caste, religion, and fear.

Raise up 2BC Champion Children, Families, Churches, and Schools across this Nation to be “On Mission with You.”

Raise up a generation who Knows You, Loves You, and Shares Your Love with Others.

May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in India.

In Jesus' name, Amen.