

B People of South Asia

The People Group

The B people live in one of the most densely populated areas of the world and most people are involved in farming or fishing. They have a rich culture based on the influences of many communities entering the region over the centuries; Sri Lankan, Mediterranean, Arab, Turkish and Persian. Nearly all B people identify as Sunni Muslim with less than 1% following Jesus.

While there are places of natural beauty, the region struggles to support such a large population. B people continue to face many political, economic, social and environmental challenges including political instability, poverty, illness and flooding. Low levels of literacy also contribute to the cycle of poverty.

The Global Interaction team among the B people

The cross-cultural team is instrumental in the operations of a locally-led development organisation. Through this organisation, many local people are being empowered through education and upskilling, which is growing opportunities for meaningful employment and a better life. Through our partner NGO's work, local project participants and local employees also have a safe place to quietly explore and grow their faith in Jesus.

Local believers and seekers are equipped with a translation of the Bible, written in culturally understandable language. The team is seeing believers engage with God's Word and grapple with what it means for their lives. Groups of believers are meeting together, growing in faith and supporting each other.

Prayer Needs

- That God will raise up more long-term cross-cultural workers to disciple believers
- For protection of believers and safe spaces for them to explore God's Word and encourage each other
- For the Holy Spirit to open opportunities for B believers to share the message of Jesus with people of peace
- That relationships built through our partner NGO's projects will lead to faith sharing conversations
- For the B faith community to be strengthened, growing in their love and knowledge of God as they gather together

Pray for the Team Members

Phil

Morris (Team Leader based in Australia)

Graeme (short-term visitor based in Australia)

Graeme and Pat (short-term visitors based in Australia)

Stories of Hope from South Asia

Peace Replaces Fear

When Team Leader Morris recently spent time in South Asia, he had a conversation with a long-term local staff member of our partner NGO. They spoke about faith and the B man explained that when he was a young Muslim man, he was told again and again that he must follow the strict religious laws otherwise he would face severe punishment in Hell. He spent many sleepless nights in fear for his future. He shared with Morris that when he accepted the Good News, the fear vanished. He felt peace and was no longer afraid of death in the way he had been.

Give thanks for this man's faith, and pray that many more B people will hear and understand the wonderful message of Jesus.

Wholistic Transformation

Our partner NGO in South Asia faces many challenges in working there, however God is moving in amazing ways. One particular woman has led a small project with the NGO for numerous years. Her family situation was very difficult before she joined the organisation. She had few life skills and didn't know God or His Word.

Since joining the organisation, she has acquired skills and she and her husband are now educating their children. Praise God that she has also become a follower of Jesus and is growing in her understanding of God's Word. Give thanks for the faithful people in our partner NGO who have welcomed this woman and continue to disciple her. Pray for many more to have a similar story of faith.

**>>> For more stories of hope, visit:
www.globalinteraction.org.au/News**