



CROSS CURRENTS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

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Dear Prayer Supporter,

What About India?

Our last two prayers letters which focused on India were those of November, 1999 and March, 2001. Significant events have happened since then—both evangelistically through CCIM as well as geo-politically on the international scene.

Accordingly, with the attention of the world being increasingly drawn to the tensions that exist between India and Pakistan:

* It is interesting to review the events that led up to this troublesome time.

* It is interesting to refer to the two previous prayer letters relating to India.

* It is exciting for Dorothy and myself to be able to share just how your faithful support through CCIM continues to bring widespread Gospel hope to peoples of 16 out of the 18 major Indian languages.

The following geo-political and economic review, extracted from *Operation World: The 21st Century Edition* by Patrick Johnstone, documents the extreme urgency of sending Gospel light to these spiritually dark regions.

Geo-Political Overview

INDIA 1947 In this year, India became independent from Britain and is now the world's largest functioning democracy.

Since 1947, the Hindu nationalist extreme movement has grown in strength and influence with their nationalist Hindutva ideology. Effective popular propaganda has infiltrated most of the power structures of India. Many fear the undermining of democracy and the emergence of an intolerant Hindu dictatorship.

Annual Income: Per person \$370.00 (1.2% of USA).

<u>Religion:</u>	Hindu	79.83%	Buddhist	.80%
	Muslim	12.50%	Bahai	.23%
	Christian	2.40%	Parsee	.02%
	Sikh	1.92%		

PAKISTAN 1947 Muslim politicians insisted on a separate state resulting in the partition of British-ruled India at Independence in 1947.

Pakistan's subsequent disastrous history includes 4 conflicts with India; the loss of Bangladesh; the destabilizing effects of 20 years of war in Afghanistan; and, political upheavals. Policy has increasingly been dictated by an Islamic extreme with close ties to the Taliban movement in Afghanistan.

Annual Income: Per person \$500.00 (1.6% of USA).

Religion: Islamic Republic

Now concerning the present debacle in this region

The disputed territory of Kashmir has been the festering flash-point between India and Pakistan for over half a century. According to Patrick Johnstone, Kashmir is presently administered by such unlikely bed-fellows as Muslim Pakistan and Communist China. India is not happy! With this continuing animosity and hostility, the use of nuclear weapons pose an alarming possibility.

It has been stated that "for seven decades the Kremlin sat on the area from the Arctic Ocean to the Indian Ocean and from Poland to the Pacific like a lid on a pressure cooker. Since then, more than 100 conflicts have erupted, killing more than 5 million people."

The present agenda of al Qaeda Islamic militancy in Afghanistan has also been connected to fundamentalist Islam in certain Pakistan strongholds. And, as we are shockingly aware, evil hatred of America and Israel has had devastating effects and sent world-wide shock-waves.

However, to the missionary-minded reader, the historic tensions between Pakistan and India are essentially a clash between Islamic and Hindu kingdom builders. Thankfully neither one will ultimately prevail.

When accused by the Pharisees of using Satanic power, the Lord Jesus replied: *If Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; and asked How then shall his kingdom stand?* MATTHEW 12:26. In his book *The Invisible War*, the late Dr. Donald Barnhouse comments: "Satan is still able to divide, but he is not able to unite. In his frenzied rushing to and fro, he is powerless because he cannot count on the loyalty of his own troops."

Accordingly, the demonic hosts assigned by Satan to the Muslim world are in direct conflict with the demonic hosts assigned to the Hindu world. It is only the Lord Jesus Christ who has the power to unite. In His priestly prayer, Jesus prayed for His true disciples, *that they may be one; as Thou, Father; art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me* JOHN 17:21.



Area in Conflict

Flashback

When we wrote in 1999, the world media was not significantly focused on the tensions that even then existed between Pakistan and India. However, at that time in "Views and Verities," we reported upon the significance of the release of India's August 17 "draft nuclear doctrine." There we quoted: "The efforts of the major powers to halt the further nuclearization of South Asia have suffered a serious set-back." In the light of current events, it is becoming increasingly clear just how serious that set-back was.

We also quoted at that time from *Intelligence Digest*: "Our sources in Islamabad say that Pakistan's own nuclear doctrine is in the final stages of development. Pakistan's nuclear doctrine will have a strong aggressive emphasis. This derives from the fact that Pakistan views its nuclear weapons as a deterrent to an overwhelming Indian conventional attack." But unlike India, "It will not sign a 'no first use' pact."

We also noted: "Our contention is that India's aim is to become a global power rather than just a regional power (and why not, it does after all have nearly five times the population of the USA?)."

Indian "Missionaries in Paper Covers"

At the end of last year, Dorothy and I rejoiced to hear that your prayerful sponsorship through CCIM, continues to result in an ever increasing outreach of our "missionaries in paper covers" in India.

Therefore, you will surely understand the value of your gifts and particularly so as you remember that the average annual income in India is only \$370.00. Every book the Lord enables us to place in the hands of these poor people—who have no knowledge of the true and living God—can bear eternal fruit. Thank you for what your prayers and support mean to such precious Indians!

Now, by our cooperative fellowship with Operations Mobilisation India—out of the eighteen major Indian languages—our books have been printed in the following sixteen languages:

Assamese; Bengali; English; Gujarathi; Hindi; Kannada; Khasi; Malayalam; Manipuri; Marathi; Mizo; Nepali; Oriya; Punjabi; Tamil and Telugu.

The total aggregate of CCIM books printed last year was the staggering number of **54,000**. Praise the Lord!

You will rejoice to know of the encouraging report we received from the Director of Operation Mobilisation Publishing, India:

A good quantity of the books have been sent to various parts of India to our teams who mostly give them away to seekers in their outreach evangelism and at crowded gatherings during the open air film shows . . . through all these means, we are ensuring that the books go far and wide into the hands of people across the nation and nearby countries.

— signed KCJ

Please would you commit yourself to pray that God's good seed will be watered by the Holy Spirit and bear eternal fruit to the glory of our Lord in this troublesome region of the world? Thank you!

In the bonds of Calvary love,

Richard + Dorothy Bennett.

आपके द्वारा परमेश्वर की खोज



रिचर्ड ए. बेनेट

"Your Quest for God" in HINDI

Bringing God's Love to Indian Villages

