A3 TDAY PRAYER GUIDE-

Indian believers are taught from the beginning to expect persecution for their faith. It is a normal part of life. Pray for strength for Indian Christians to boldly proclaim the gospel.	Delhi is India's political hub with 22.5 million people. Pray for Christians in Delhi to reach out to their neighbors and for the church to grow this year.	More than 800 million people in India are Hindu, worshipping millions of gods. Pray for Hindus in India to know the One True God and believe in Him alone.	Diwali is an annual festival for the Hindu New Year, also known as the festival of lights. Pray for Hindus to be introduced to Jesus, the Light of the World and begin the year as children of God.	Marwari-speaking Gujjars number 3.34 million and live in northern India. Often called the "backward class," the Gujjars are an unengaged, unreached people group. Pray for the gospel to reach the Gujjars this year.	More than 100 million Indians live on the streets in horrible conditions. Pray for the homeless and marginalized of India to find true hope in Jesus Christ.
Out of India's 1.2 billion people, only 2.2 percent are Christian. Pray for the church in India to grow and to reach out to the remaining unreached peoples around them.	Raj* and Isha* chose to follow Christ and then lost their families. Pray for Christians like Raj and Isha who must count the cost of losing family in order to follow Christ.	Preryone goes to Mumbai in search of opportunity. Almost every unengaged, unreached people group can be found there. Pray for UUPGs to hear the gospel and take it back to their homes.	More than 138 million people in India follow Islam. Pray for Muslims in India to hear the gospel and believe in Jesus as the Son of God.	During Id-ul-Zuha / Bakr-Id in India, Muslims commemorate how Allah provided a sheep in the place of Abraham's son, Ishmael. Pray for Muslims to hear about Jesus' sacrifice in their place.	I2 Three million Marathi- speaking Mali in India are known for selling flowers and plants used in Hindu worship. Pray for these unengaged, unreached people to worship the One True God.
An estimated one million children are forced into prostitution in India. Pray for an end to sexual exploitation and for healing for those who have been trafficked.	Often Christians in India lose their community when they choose to follow Christ. Pray for the church to reach out to new believers and strengthen them.	Pastors in India do their best to make sure no one faces persecution alone. Pray for pastors to be strengthened to continue shepherding persecuted believers to be bold in their faith.	I6 To wash in the rivers in Varanasi, India's spiritual center, is said to cleanse people from sin. Pray for Hindus to hear about Jesus, the only one who can wash away sins.	India is home to around 8 million Buddhists who aim for a life of good deeds to escape reincarnation. Pray for Buddhists to hear about Jesus, the true end to suffering.	The Kumbh Mela festival is the world's largest religious event. Millions come to wash their sins away in India's "holy" rivers. Pray for Christians to boldly proclaim the gospel to those seeking to rid themselves of sin.
Living in Northwest India, the unengaged, unreached Bairagi people worship millions of gods. Pray for the gospel to reach the Bairagi and for churches to form.	Hundreds of young girls in India are forced to become temple prostitutes, dedicated to the gods for their entire lives. Pray for this old custom to be completely eradicated and for God to heal those affected.	2I "I used to worship, but there was no peace in my soul," says Rehaan* a former Hindu turned Christian. Pray for Hindus to find true peace in Christ and share that peace with others.	22 Indian Pastor Husaam* teaches new believers that Jesus is always their first love and was persecuted too. Pray for more new believers to be trained and supported by pastors like Husaam.	In Amritsar the holiest Sikh shrine attracts an average of 100,000 visitors a day. Pray for God to send Christians to share the gospel with the many visitors of the temple.	24 Over 19 million Sikhs live in India and strive to live disciplined lives and escape reincarnation. Pray for Sikhs to see Jesus as the sacrifice for all sins and follow him.
During Lohri, Sikhs celebrate the harvest and pay homage to nature gods. Pray for Sikhs to learn of their Creator and praise Him alone.	The Lohar are well known as iron workers and get their name from the Hindu god Viswakarma. Pray for this unengaged, unreached people group to hear the gospel in their Marathi language.	About 250 million people in India are labeled "untouchable" and cast out of society. Pray for the Dalits to hear the good news of Jesus who loves them and died for them.	Pray for Indian pastors like Sandeep who are seeking to reach their people in ways their people can relate to, with common cultural practices that lead to the gospel.	Bangalore is the technology capitol of India, attracting many in search of material wealth. Pray for people in Bangalore to hear of Jesus, who alone can fulfill them rather than possessions.	30 Jainism is a little-known religion with over 4 million followers in India. To Jains, humans can eventually become gods. Pray for Jains to see that they cannot attain salvation on their own.
Holi is India's festival of colors and is supposed to promote unity. Pray for Indians to be receptive to the gospel during Holi and for Christians to build relationships with non-believers. For more information about the Peoples of India, visit PRAYING FOR PRAYI					