

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

01 November 2023

Eurasia Region



India

The work of the Church of the Nazarene in India began officially in 1898, making it one of the oldest works in the denomination. India has a rich history and culture that goes back millennia. Tradition tells of the coming of St. Thomas to India following Pentecost and having significant ministry and influence in the south of the country. India, one of the world's largest democracies, gained its independence through the non-violent, non-cooperation movement of Gandhi, in 1947 after decades of British rule. The Church of the Nazarene began work in the State of Maharashtra and was restricted to work in that State for many years. However, in the 1980s and 1990s, restrictions were lifted, and work expanded rapidly across the sub-continent. India, with its population of 1.4 billion, is the world's second most populous nation, second only to China, and is a world leader in technology, and is rapidly growing in many fields of commerce. It is a religiously diverse nation, with Christianity in a small minority; however, the work of the Church of the Nazarene is noted for its ministries in compassion, child development, education, and local churches lovingly serving their communities in holy ways.



130,258 Members



1943 Fully Organized Churches; 548 Not Yet Organized Churches



395 District Licensed and 216 Ordained Ministers on 15 Districts



PRAYER

- Pray that the Lord will call more young people to give themselves to missions and ministry.
- Pray for courage and strength for those involved in outreach to share the Good News.
- Pray for Christians in India, that though a minority population, they may have significant holy influence.



PRAISE

- Praise God for the passion of the Divya Jyoti church, and others across India, to reach the lost.
- Praise God for the example of young people who serve in missions.
- Praise God for leaders who encourage and engage the youth in service, and for the churches that support them and give them places of service.



Kids Kaleidoscope

Click [here](#) to access Kids Kaleidoscope, a monthly addition to NMI Central to awaken and nurture a spirit of missions in everyone.

NMI SNAPSHOT



With the help and support of their local church, Divya Jyoti Church of the Nazarene, Miriam and Monica participated in a volunteer missions training. They left the comfort of their home district to serve on two different districts of their vast country. You could say that young people like these are on a mission of peace and blessing, to introduce Christ, the Prince of Peace and the Source of blessing to those they meet.



Initially they served in Kolkata, where they worked with a child development center teaching English. Part of their service involved providing instructions on computer systems to the teachers along with facilitating teacher prayer meetings; they also lead programs on malaria prevention, hand washing, childhood vaccinations, and career objectives.

In another district, they were able to work teaching English to young children. One of the highlights was the opportunity to coordinate a winter vacation Bible school with over 200 students participating. Their year of service throughout the country has made a lasting impression on many young lives.



The Divya Jyoti Church of the Nazarene, in Karnataka is a very active congregation, emphasizing missions in their local church. They have an outreach missions team which has helped plant several daughter churches in the city of Bangalore and its neighboring areas because of their zeal to reach out to the lost with the message of forgiveness, hope, and peace.

The church shares testimonies of missionaries in their youth fellowships, women's and men's fellowships, and in Sunday school. They take their young people to mission fields to gain first-hand experience. The youth contribute by giving their time, talent, and finances for these trips.

The Church helps children and youth seek God's calling, encourages, and helps them financially to involve and equip themselves in missions work. Volunteers like Miriam and Monica continue to make an impact in their community and abroad. Monica is currently serving in full time missions work.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve on the Eurasia region? For more information, click [here](#).

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