

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

NEPAL**Known as: Democratic Republic of Nepal**

- Located in [South Asia](#).
- Population of approximately 27 million
- Nepal is the world's 41st most populous country.
- Across the Himalayas lies the [Tibetan Autonomous Region](#).
- [Kathmandu](#) is the nation's capital and largest metropolis.
- The mountainous north has eight of the world's ten tallest mountains, including the highest point on Earth, [Mount Everest](#), called *Sagarmatha* in Nepali. It contains more than 240 peaks over 20,000 ft (6,096 m) above sea level.
- The fertile and humid south is heavily [urbanized](#).
- [Hinduism](#) is practiced by about 81% of Nepalese - making it the country with the highest percentage of Hindu followers.
- [Buddhism](#), though a minority faith in the country, is linked historically with Nepal.
- Christianity is still considered a foreign religion by the majority of Hindus and Buddhists. If any family member becomes Christian, he or she is sure to face severe opposition from the family and even be completely ostracized by them.
- Nepal is among the poorest and least developed countries in the world with 42% of its population living below the poverty line.

Prayer Emphasis—

Native missionaries taking the gospel to rural ethnic people in the mountains of Nepal are facing persecution by Maoist insurgents who are doing their utmost to disrupt missionary travel and church planting. They have resorted to violence to drive those who spread the gospel away from their "territory." Recently members of one congregation were in the middle of a meeting when they were surrounded by gun-wielding Maoists. But after talking to the angry mob, the Christians persuaded the attackers not to harm anyone. In another incident, missionaries trying to reach a remote area to follow up on new believers were almost forced to turn back by Maoists who tried to capture them.

Despite the dangers, native missionaries continue to work in these difficult conditions, bringing the gospel to isolated ethnic groups in Maoist-overrun locations. Most of these people live in poverty without proper healthcare or education. (Missions Insider)

