

Burakumin in Japan



The Burakumin, or "hamlet people," descended as outcasts from Japan's feudal system. This social group was the lowest of the low. The Emancipation Act of 1871 abolished the feudal system, but no laws were passed to end the discrimination against the Burakumin. While many Burakumin have assimilated into Japanese culture, they still face some discrimination in marriage and employment, with the prejudice being most pronounced in the western areas of Japan. Early Christian missionaries reached out to the Burakumin because of their evident needs and persecution. During this time some became followers of Christ.

Ministry Obstacles

The Burakumin trained their own Buddhist and Shinto priests, diviners and ceremonial performers, which indicates a higher commitment to these religious systems.

Outreach Ideas

Japan is an open country for missionaries. Someone must go!



📍 boo-RAH-koo-min
POPULATION: 884,000
LANGUAGE: Japanese
RELIGION: Buddhism
BIBLE: Complete
STATUS: Unreached

Prayer Focus

May God strengthen the few believers and give them deep love for their families and neighbors. Pray that the Burakumin would find their identity in Christ. Pray for a movement to Christ among their communities.

SCRIPTURE This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24, ESV

PRAY Praise the Lord that you have the privilege of praying for others to rejoice in him.