## Sikkim Bhotia in India



The Bhotia of India are shepherds who live in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains. They are a scheduled tribe, meaning they are eligible for assistance from the Indian government. The Bhotia comprise the majority population in northern Sikkim, where they are referred to as Lachenpas, from a Tibetan word for "big hill." The religion of the Bhotia is generally a combination of Hinduism and Tibetan Buddhism. As one can imagine, the life of the Bhotia is not easy. In the summer, they live at higher altitudes for their flocks, returning to lower altitudes in winter. Their health is poor and their income is low.

## **Obstacles**

The harsh weather, rough conditions and remoteness of their communities makes reaching the Sikkim Bhotia difficult.

## **Outreach Ideas**

With their need for better health and higher income, it may be possible to reach out to the Bhotia with medical or occupational assistance.

## **Prayer Focus**

Pray for the Bhotia Sikkim to have a submitted, loving relationship with



SIK-im BOH-tee-ah
POPULATION: 81,000
LANGUAGE: Sikkimese
RELIGION: Buddhism
BIBLE: Unspecified
STATUS: Unreached

God the Father, so they can experience the abundant life promised by Jesus. Pray that Indian believers would reach out to their Bhotia neighbors and start discipleship movements. Pray that they would receive the help they need for good health and for job training.

**SCRIPTURE** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' (Matthew 25:21)

**PRAY** that many in this people group become good and faithful servants of the Master and celebrate with Him in the coming kingdom.

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