## Divehi in India



hivehi is official language of the Maldives Islands, a chain of coral islands southwest of India in the Indian Ocean. The vast majority of Maldivians or Dhivehi people live in the island nation but a small number live in Sri Lanka and India. The Maldives gained independence from Britain in 1965. Most Maldivians make their living by fishing, trade, selling coconuts and in the tourist industry. The Dhivehi identify with Islam, but they add various forms of spiritism to their beliefs. In the Maldives it is illegal for a Muslim Maldivian to marry a non-Muslim or change his or her religion.



There are currently few if any known Dhivehi believers. Although missionary activity is not forbidden in India, any Maldivian who chooses to follow Jesus Christ will encounter persecution from their family and community.

## **Outreach Ideas**

The JESUS Film is available in Dhivehi, and it can be distributed in India. Indian believers can build redemptive relationships with the Maldivians who live in India.



dee-VAY-hee
POPULATION: 1,400
LANGUAGE: Maldivian
RELIGION: Islam
BIBLE: Portions
STATUS: Unreached

## **Prayer Focus**

Pray for Holy Spirit filled believers in India to share the gospel with the Dhivehi. Pray for a movement in which the Holy Spirit leads many Maldivians to the savior. Pray for a hunger and thirst for spiritual truth among the Dhivehi leading them to the only savior.

**SCRIPTURE** And many peoples shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. Isa 2:3

**PRAY** for a heart-felt seeking of the Lord among many from today's people group.

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