

Deaf of Nepal

Unreached & Unengaged People Group living in Nepal

Nepal

Nepal, officially known as the *State of Nepal*, is a roughly rectangular country with an area of 147,181 sq. mi. (381,200 km²).



Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia, bordered by Tibet to the north and India on all other sides.

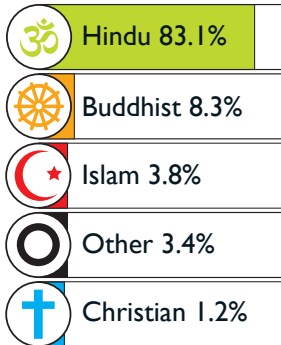
The landscape is unusually diverse, with the humid Terai in the south and the lofty Himalayas in the north. It is home to 8 of 10 of the world's highest mountains, including *Mount Everest*.

Population



Nepal 29.1 million
Deaf of Nepal 140,000

Religion



Animistic and shamanic traditions are strong and belief in ghosts, spirits, and witchcraft is widespread.

Language

Nepali
Official language

Nepalese
Sign Language

Rugged topography has created a great diversity of language. Nepali is secondary to the language of over 36 ethnic groups.

Literacy

90%
of Deaf in Nepal
are illiterate.

Signing

Nepal sign language is very different from what is used in the U.S. and other parts of the world.

Being Deaf in Nepal

Deafness in the people of Nepal can be attributed to poverty, poor hygiene, health problems and lack of basic health care. According to some researchers as many as 15% of the population of Nepal may have some hearing loss.

The first deaf school in Nepal was established in the 1960's and Nepali Sign Language was developed. A small portion of deaf children are sent to larger cities (Kathmandu or Lekhnath) to attend school. Graduates tend to remain in the cities for better employment opportunities.

Rural farmers do not see the need of an education for their hearing children let alone the deaf. Many deaf never learn sign language as a child, so they have no language at all. This in turn causes them to be marginalized in society.

Engaging with God

Deaf in Nepal lose contact with their belief system as they live far away from family while attending school. This creates an opportunity to share the gospel.



ALL NATIONS

Sources: joshuaproject.net and everyculture.com

For more information please visit www.allnationsfamily.org

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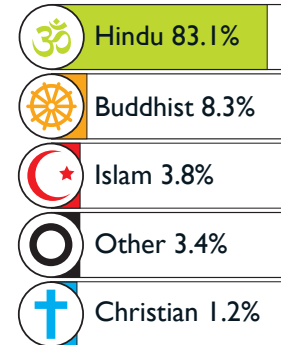
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