

Teaching Guide -The Hrusso People

Instructions for Leaders or Teachers

- Study all the material yourself before sharing it with others.
- Introduce the people group to the children.
- Listen to the audio information that describes the people group.
- Listen to any additional information provided.
- Do these things in the order listed. Some points can be skipped over if not usable.
- Use a map of globe to locate the area where the people group lives.
- Have children do map work that is age appropriate.
- Talk about the location of the Hrusso people group in relation to the equator.
- Ask “Do the Hrusso people live close to the equator?” If the answer is “Yes”, this indicates a hot/tropical climate.
- Ask, “Do the Hrusso people live in a mountain area?” If the answer is “Yes”, this will indicate a colder/cooler climate.
- Have the children name the countries surrounding the country where the Hrusso people group live.
- Look at the map included and see if the country has any access to an ocean or a river which would allow transport of goods.
- Talk about the ways the Hrusso people group provide for basic human needs:
 - Food
 - Clothing
 - Shelter
 - Human relationships
 - Compare the answers with the way your own people provide these needs.
 - Are these customs of the Hrusso people different from the way you live?
 - Talk about the importance of color and the meaning of color.
 - Talk about festivals and music.

- Talk about the animals that live in this country where the Hrusso people live. Are the animals helpful to the people? Are the animals a danger to the people?
- What are the main spiritual beliefs of the Hrusso people?
 - Have any of these people placed their faith in Jesus Christ?
 - Is there a church where these people may gather together to worship and study?
 - Do any Christians in this group face persecution, (treatment in a harsh or cruel way) for their beliefs?
- Ask your group of children if the Hrusso people have any part of God's Word (The Bible), translated into their own language?
- Ask if they have any other Christian material?
 - Bible stories
 - Christian radio
 - Christian music Christian drama
 - Christian audiocassettes
- Pray for the Hrusso people group using the prayer points you have heard. Are the children able to think of other things for which to pray?
- Are there people groups in your country who are still waiting to hear the message of God's love for all peoples? Pray for them too!
- Are there children or adults in your group who might like to train as Bible Translators? A Bible Translator put the words of the Bible into the words of a different language.
- Review the names and countries of other people groups you have already studied.
- If a craft or color page is included this week and is useful for your group of children to work on, do it now.

H

Hrusso

(RU-50)

Mynah birds chatter in the nearby forest. A great hornbill swoops and whooshes from tree to tree. He shows off his massive yellow bill. He flaunts his huge black and white banded wings.

It is almost wintertime in northern India. Hrusso people glide and sway in the perfect harmony of an age-old line dance. Silver necklaces sparkle and beads jingle. The dancers splash scarlet shawls and banded sashes over clothes as pure white as the distant snow-topped mountains. The festival lasts four days. Everyone's sister and aunt and cousin feast and sing and swing together in the dance. They hope for good health and a rich harvest.

The Hrusso people do not have the Bible in their own language.



INDIA



The Hrusso People

- Continent: Asia
- Country: India
- Geographical information:

The Hrusso people live on the sub-continent of India which is part of Asia.

- They live right at the top of north-eastern India.
- This is the first part of India to greet the morning sun so it is called “Land of the Dawn-lit-Mountains” (Arunachal Pradesh).
- This tip of India shares borders with the country of Bhutan on the west, China on the north and Myanmar on the east.

Can you find these countries on the map of Asia?

- This area of India is beautiful and rugged and has some mighty rivers.
- It is an area where tropical evergreen forests meet temperate Himalayan jungles.
- Tree ferns spread their green fronds to great height and thick mats of creepers cover everything with green.
- Beyond the jungles rise the Himalaya Mountains. They are the highest mountains in the world.
- The Himalayas are always covered in icy glaciers and snow.
- The Great Indian Hornbill is a large colorful bird that lives in the area where the Hrusso people live.

Facts about the Hrusso people:

- There are more than 50 languages spoken in this part of
- India. The Hrusso people speak one of those languages.
- There are about 3,500 Hrusso people.
- The Hrusso people live in three large villages.
- The climate in this area is mildly cold and very humid.
- The main crops grown in this area are rice, maize, millet, wheat, lentils, potatoes, sugarcane and fruit.
- Many of the Hrusso people are farmers raising only enough crops to feed their own families.

- Most of the Hrusso people worship nature and various spirits. Ritual sacrifice is common.
- The Gaur (a type of wild ox) is often sacrificed. (God's Word tells us that Jesus was sacrificed on the cross for us and His was the only sacrifice needed to save all people.)
- The Hrusso people call their religion something that means the "worship of the sky and earth".
- The Hrusso have chosen to worship what has been created, instead of worshiping God who created all things! (Romans 1 explains this in verses 20 and 22.)
- A few of the Hrusso people have found new life in Christ and have become Christians.

You can pray for the Hrusso people:

- Pray that God will call missionaries to live among the Hrusso people.
- Also pray that God will provide people to translate Scripture into the Hrusso language.
- Ask God to prepare the thinking of these people and allow them to hear and accept the truth about Christianity.
- Pray that the Hrusso will learn to love and worship the Creator, rather than things God created.
- Pray that the Hrusso will learn to love and thank Jesus. He made the only sacrifice necessary.

India Animal Study

The Great (Indian) Hornbills are one of the largest of this kind of bird.

- They live in southeastern Asia.
- Countries where they are found include India, Vietnam, Malaya and Sumatra.
- They live from sea level to up to about 5000 feet (1530 meters) altitude.
- Hornbills can grow to a length of 4.5 (1.4) meters.
- Their bodies are covered with black feathers but the wing tips have a band of white feathers.
- The tail can be as long as three feet (7.6 cm). It is white with a band of black.
- The necks are banded with a circle of fur.
- The bill of a hornbill is yellow and curves down.
- The bill has a hump (a casque) that is solid ivory.
- They have short legs and big feet.
- The favorite food of this bird is fruit and berries.
- Hornbills swallow most of their food whole.
- The males and females mate for life.
- The female usually lays 2-4 white round eggs.
- When the female is ready to lay her eggs she chooses a hole in a tree.
- Then she enters the hole and seals the entrance with a mixture of her excreta and mud and wood bark. She only leaves a small hole.
- Then for 28 – 40 days her mate must feed her through this opening.
- She makes herself a prisoner but her eggs will be warm and protected from snakes and gangs of monkeys.
- After the eggs hatch four to eight weeks later the mother Hornbill breaks out and helps her mate continue to feed the young birds.
- But people hunt these birds for their meat and are also destroying their natural habitat (area where they live.)
- The birds are quite rare and may become extinct (all dead).



Great Indian Hornbill Bird



Additional material for older Children:

The Story of Sadhu Sundar Singh: Indian Missionary to Many Lands

Many, many years ago in September 1889 a young boy was born into a wealthy family in northern India. His name was Sundar Singh.

Sundar had anything he wanted. Sundar had good food, nice clothes and many things to play with. His parents were Hindus and worshipped many false gods. Sundar often went to the temples with his parents to worship these false gods.

Sundar had a good mind and he was able to memorize long Hindu stories. He learned to read and read the sacred books of Hindu. He also read the Koran. It is the sacred book for Islam. He decided to become a Sadhu. A Sadhu is a man who spends his whole life giving up pleasures of this world to find true peace. Sundar studied all his holy books very carefully. Then he went to a Christian mission school. At the school he read the Bible. At first he wasn't interested in believing God's Message.

When he was fourteen Sundar's mother died. Sundar was very sad and upset. He treated his Bible very badly. He tore it apart and tried to burn it. But nowhere could he find true peace. He was very unhappy. Then he thought he would kill himself so he could find true peace.

Sundar decided to pray first. He asked God to show him the right path (way) to truth. Suddenly Sundar saw a bright light. Then he heard a voice in that light, speaking to him in his own language. The words he heard were:

“How much longer are you going to search for me? I have come to save you. You prayed for the right path. Why have you not followed it?”

Then Sundar knew that Jesus had risen from death and was alive. He fell on his knees and felt more peace than he had ever felt before. His vision disappeared, but God's peace and joy remained within him.

At that moment Sundar's life changed forever. He was baptized and became a Sadhu Christian. Sundar dedicated his life to Jesus. He abandoned all he owned and never married. This was because he wanted to spend his life telling others about Jesus instead of caring for a wife and children.

Sundar's family said he could no longer be part of their family. Instead he wandered barefooted without taking any food or supplies. He walked from village to village, telling people in India about how Jesus had died for them. Sundar told them that God loves all people.

Then Sundar walked to India's neighboring country Tibet to share God's Message of love with those people. Sundar went to the country of Tibet because it was a great challenge. There was very strong opposition and persecution (bad treatment)

of Christian believers in Tibet. Sundar and another missionary often went without enough food. They often slept outdoors in the high cold Himalaya Mountains.

After working in Tibet, Sundar wanted more training. He attended a Bible school back in India. He studied for two years. Then he began to walk about sharing the Good News of Jesus with more people.

Sundar would often talk with and sing Christian songs for those he met on the roads and trails. Sometimes he was treated badly. He did not get angry. He didn't try to get even. Instead, he would kneel and pray for those who treated him badly. Many people came to know and accept Jesus because of Sundar's loving example.

For a number of years Sundar continued his journeys as a missionary. He was often treated badly but was also delivered by the Lord. In 1914, Sundar preached in the country of Nepal. Nepal is a Buddhist country. Sundar was arrested and sentenced to death by a Buddhist leader. He was sentenced for spreading a foreign religion. Sundar was thrown into a dry well that was covered and locked. He stayed in that well, naked, and without food and water for two days. Then a stranger came and helped him out of the well. The stranger left without saying a word. Then Sundar was recaptured and taken back to the religious leader. That leader was surprised because he had the only key to the well. The leader realized that Sundar was protected by a very powerful God.

In 1918, Sundar visited a large Indian city. Thousands of people gathered to listen to him preach. The Bible tells us that Jesus often used parables (stories) when he talked with people. Sundar often used parables in his preaching. He once said, "One day after a long journey, I rested in front of a house. Suddenly a sparrow came towards me blown helplessly by a strong wind. From another direction, an eagle dived to catch the frightened sparrow. Threatened from different directions, the sparrow flew into my lap. By choice it would not normally do that. However, the little bird was seeking for a refuge from a great danger. Likewise, the violent winds of suffering and trouble blow us into the Lord's protective hands."

The Sadhu, Sundar Singh made many journeys. He traveled all over India and the Island of Sri Lanka. He also visited the countries of Malaysia, Japan and China. Then he traveled to Western Europe, Australia and Israel. He preached in many important cities. But even when he became famous, he was modest and humble. His loving attitude made his own father repent and accept the Lord.

Sundar continued to visit the country of Tibet every summer. Then in 1929 while visiting, he disappeared and was never seen again. But his life was a witness to the verse written in Mark 8:35. It says, "For whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for me and for the Gospel will save it."

More material for older children:

The Himalaya Mountains

The Himalaya Mountain Range is the highest group of mountains in the world. All of the world's ten highest peaks are located in the Himalayas. This group of mountains stretches across parts of four Asian countries. The Himalayan lands include India, Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan.

The Indian Himalayas:

- **The Himalayan Mountains cover the entire northern part of India.**
- **The Indian people call this mountain range the “Abode of Snow”.**
- **The Hrusso people live in northern India within sight of the towering Himalayas.**

The Nepal Himalayas

- **Nepal is known as a true Himalayan Kingdom.**
- **Nepal contains nine of the world's fourteen highest mountains.**
- **The Himalaya Mountains cover three fourths of the land of Nepal.**
- **Nepal is home to some of the highest, most rugged, most remote and most difficult terrain in the world.**
- **Mount Everest is in the country of Nepal. It is located on Nepal's border with Tibet.**
- **Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. This means its summit (peak) is higher above sea level than any other mountain.**
- **Mount Everest stands about 29,017 feet high (8,844 m) which is about five miles high.**
- **The Rajbanshi people live in Nepal.**

Tibetan Himalayas:

- **The Tibetan plateau lies beyond the main Himalayan range.**
- **The Tibetan plateau is the highest plateau in the world.**
- **The Tibetan plateau is sometimes called the “roof of the world”.**

- **Mount Everest is on the border of Tibet and Nepal.**

Bhutanese Himalayas:

- **The small Kingdom of Bhutan is also in the Himalaya Mountains**
- **Bhutan is where the Brokpa people live.**



The Himalayas



Mount Everest

Copyrights and Creative Commons license

The license used here makes 7 important provisions.

You are free, indeed encouraged, to do the following:

- Copy, print, distribute, display, and teach from Spark materials in any way you wish.
- Make changes for your own use and for distribution to others.
- Make any sort of non-commercial copies, ministry copies, or personal copies, from any Spark material, without further notice.

Under the following conditions:

- You properly cite the original authors of the material you find here. Pages on www.vernacularmedia.org without a clear authorship should be cited to vernacularmedia.org on your copies.
- You must retain the BY-NC-SA license on your copies of materials copied from www.vernacularmedia.org. (You must not trample the commons.)
- You must not change the license. (You must not steal from the commons.)
- You must ask for permission for use of Spark materials outside of this list. (You need permission to take work out of the commons.)

By Spark Team