

Tinani



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Population: 3,600

Literacy: 5%

Scripture Status: No Scriptures and no translation in progress

The snow-covered mountainous area located between Ladakh and Tibet in the north and the Kullu valley in the south is more than 3300 metres above sea level, with temperatures ranging from 6 to minus 20 degrees

Celsius in winter and 2 to 26 degrees Celsius in summer. To reach here, one has to travel over the Rohtang Pass, which is closed for a good part of the year because of heavy snowfall. The Tinani people live in this part of Himachal Pradesh, more specifically in the Lahul Spiti subdivision and its surrounding areas.

Tinani men are skilful traders. They trade salt, grain and wool with other people in the Himalayan region and in the process sometimes become quite wealthy. Tinani are not interested in education and, as a result, literacy among them is very low. Most of them are Buddhists or Hindus by faith. There are only a handful of Tinani Christians in India, but there are no known Christians on the Tibetan side of the border, where few have ever heard of Jesus Christ. Scripture portions were translated into Lahuli Tinani in 1908, but have been out of print since 1915. Gospel recordings

are available in this language. Extreme weather with continuous snowfall make it a challenge for anyone wanting to go and work among the Tinani.

There is a need for literacy workers who can teach them to read and write. The portions of Scripture already translated need revision too, but who will go to spend their lifetime among the Tinani to provide them with God's Word? Pray that God will raise up someone to do this strategic work.

Pray for:

1. Christian workers to venture into this challenging area as messengers of the gospel.
2. Scripture portions to be revised /translated and made available.
3. God to bring transformation in the lives of the Tinani.
4. The government to develop programmes aimed at educating the Tinani, who are at present reluctant to read and write.

