

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR PEOPLE GROUP RESEARCH EMPHASIS ON SOUTH ASIA

GENERAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Encyclopedia of World Cultures, edited by David Levinson. Boston, MA: G.K. Hall, 1991-2002. This is a 10-volume set, with an additional 11th volume published as a supplement. The volumes are organized by region of the world, and contain brief (2-8 page) profiles of people groups in that region. The profiles contain important information such as alternate names for the group, linguistic affiliations, information on culture and history, and a list of sources for further research. This set is based on decades of research performed by the Human Relations Area Files project at Yale University.

Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life, edited by Timothy L. Gall. Detroit, MI: Gale Research, 1998. This is a 4-volume set, organized by region of the world, which presents articles exploring the way of life of over 500 culture groups worldwide. Each article contains sections on the group's location, language, folklore, religion, holidays, rites of passage, interpersonal relations, living conditions, family life, clothing, food, education, cultural heritage, work, sports, entertainment and recreation, folkarts, social problems, and includes a bibliography of sources.

Countries and Their Cultures, edited by Melvin Ember and Carol R. Ember. New York: Macmillan Reference, 2001. This is a 4-volume set, with articles arranged alphabetically by country name. These articles focus on what is commonly shared culturally by the people who live in a country. This resource is very useful when concentrating on the "majority" population of a country, rather than individual people groups (e.g., Venezuelans, rather than the Piaroa tribe.)

Encyclopedia of the Peoples of the World, by Amiram Gonen. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1993. This one-volume encyclopedia contains entries on over 2,000 people groups around the world. It has extensive cross-references and can be very useful in identifying alternate names for a people group.

Encyclopedia of Stateless Nations: Ethnic and National Groups Around the World, edited by James Minahan. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002. This 4-volume set contains 350 short articles highlighting the historical, political, social, religious and economic development of many national groups, many of them virtually unknown outside their countries.

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Mankind, edited by Richard Carlisle. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 1990. This 22-volume set contains articles on over 500 different peoples and cultures. Although it is an older resource, the cultural information is still very useful.

Encyclopedia of Urban Cultures: Cities and Cultures Around the World, edited by Melvin Ember and Carol R. Ember. Danbury, CT: Grolier, 2002. This 4-volume set was published under the auspices of the Human Relations Area Files at Yale University. It contains both thematic essays on major issues in urban culture, as well as 240 profiles of cities around the world.

SPECIALIZED REFERENCE BOOKS—MULTIREGIONAL

Muslim Peoples: A World Ethnographic Survey, by Richard V. Weekes, 2nd edition. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1984. Although some of the information is outdated, this is still an important resource. This 2-volume work contains information on over 190 ethnic or linguistic groups, and many of the chapters have extensive bibliographies.

Peoples on the Move: Introducing the Nomads of the World, by David J. Phillips. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2001. This book contains several valuable chapters covering general topics, such as a definition of nomads and communicating the Gospel to nomads, as well as a survey of about 200 nomadic peoples in every region of the world. It includes an extensive and detailed bibliography.

Peoples of the Buddhist World, by Paul Hattaway. Waynesboro, GA: Authentic Media; Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2004. This book includes many profiles of Buddhist groups in the countries of South Asia. Each one-page profile has a brief history of the people, some basic statistics and the “Status of Evangelization.” This book is also available on CD-ROM, from Global Mapping (www.gmi.org).

Ethnic Groups Worldwide: A Ready Reference Handbook, by David Levinson. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press, 1998. This book is separated into four geographical regions: Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas. Within each region, there are chapters for each country containing specific information on the ethnic groups of that country.

Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Raymond G. Gordon, editor. Dallas, TX: Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc., 2005. This is an exhaustive survey of the world’s languages, organized by country. It is an excellent source for identifying ethnolinguistic people groups, and is particularly valuable for providing alternate names for groups, as well as information on language families. This is also available online at: <http://www.ethnologue.com/>

Worldmark Encyclopedia of Religious Practices, edited by Thomas Riggs. Detroit, MI: Thomson Gale, 2006. This is a 3-volume set; vol. 1 is an overview of “Religions and Sects”, while Vols. 2 and 3 contain individual country profiles of religious beliefs and practices, including rituals, celebrations and observances, scripture, theology, ethics, dietary practices, and political and social issues.

RESOURCES ON SOUTH ASIA

(Note: Some of the books listed here may not be easily available in local libraries and bookstores. To find the nearest library location, use the **WorldCat** web site, listed below under “Internet Resources,” or check with the “interlibrary loan” staff of your local library.)

PEOPLE GROUP INFORMATION

Peoplegroups.org: For a comprehensive list of people groups in the countries of South Asia, go to www.peoplegroups.org. Under “Continents” select “Asia.” Then, from the list of countries, select any of the following: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, or Sri Lanka.

INDIA

People of India. There have been many different books published on the peoples of India, beginning with tribal surveys done by the British in the early 1900s. The most comprehensive recent survey of people groups in India has been done by a project called “The Anthropological Survey of India.” The volumes are published in a series called **People of India**, edited by K.S. Singh. There are many different components to the study, but probably the most useful titles are:

--**India’s Communities**, published in 3 volumes. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1998. This set of reference books is invaluable for identifying people groups in India, and helping to distinguish among the many different tribes, castes, and communities. There are more than 4,600 distinct “communities” or groups identified in these books. Each entry describes the history of the group, gives locations, alternate names, subdivisions of the group, and often a description of their culture and customs. Most entries also list the sources from which the information was obtained, which can be useful for more in-depth research.

--**People of India: The State Series.** Delhi: Oxford University Press, various years. Many volumes have already been published in this series, and more are coming out each year. For each Indian state, a set of from one to three volumes presents profiles of the people groups in that state. To look for a title about a particular state, use the following format: **People of India: Gujarat** (for the books on Gujarat State.) If the people group is located in more than one state, there may be a chapter on them in each state's book.

Other resources on Indian people groups include:

Encyclopaedia of Primitive Tribes in India, by P.K. Mohanty. 2 volumes. Delhi: Kalpaz Publications, 2004.

Encyclopedia of Indian Tribes, edited by Padma Shri S.S.Shashi. New Delhi: Anmol Publications, 1994.

Encyclopaedic Profile of Indian Tribes, edited by Sachchidananda and R. R. Prasad. New Delhi: Discovery Publishing House, 1996.

Unreached Mega Peoples of India, by the India Missions Association and the FMC Research Team. Chennai: India Missions Association, 1999. The book contains over 100 profiles of groups that are over one million in population.

NEPAL

People of Nepal, by Dor Bahadur Bista. Kathmandu: Ratna Pustak Bhandar, 2004 (originally published in 1967, and updated in 2004.) This book contains chapters on over 30 people groups, and is the first resource of its kind to be written by a Nepali.

Tribal Ethnography of Nepal, by Rajesh Gautam and Asoke K. Thapa-Magar. 2 volumes. Delhi: Book Faith India, 1994.

Faces of Nepal, by Jan Salter and Harka Gurung. Lalitpur, Nepal: Himal books, 1999.

PAKISTAN

Sociolinguistic Survey of Northern Pakistan, 5 volumes, by Calvin R. Rensch, et al. Dallas, TX: Summer Institute of Linguistics, 1992. Even though these are books about languages, they contain helpful cultural and historical information about the people groups.

- Vol. 1: Languages of Kohistan
- Vol. 2: Languages of Northern Areas
- Vol. 3: Hindko and Gujar
- Vol. 4: Pashto, Waneci, Ormuri
- Vol. 5: Languages of Chitral

MEDIA RESOURCES

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD (IMB). www.imb.org The IMB has a number of videos, DVDs and online downloadable videos on the peoples of South Asia.

--To get a list of available resources that can be downloaded, go to <http://www.imb.org/VideoLink/default.asp> and search by country or people group name.

--To search the online catalog, go to: <http://resources.imb.org/>

--Titles of recent interest include:

Conforming to His Image: Loving the Peoples of India, a full-length video/DVD, which has a rich variety of resources on India.

Bhutan: Land Under the Thunder Dragon—Loving the Drupka

Hindus of India

CALEB PROJECT: www.calebproject.org The Caleb Project has produced a number of videos, DVDs and prayer guides on the peoples of South Asia, including Sikhs, Rajputs, Ansari Muslims, Bhils, and Maratha. They have also produced an overview DVD called **Encounter India: Your Church Can Impact India for Eternity**, which includes eighteen different videos that can be used in multiple settings to introduce Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists and others.

YOUTH WITH A MISSION (YWAM): www.ywam.org This organization has a number of people group resources available, including videos on the Decanni Muslims, the Bengali Muslims, the Bhils of India, the Burushkos of Pakistan, the Pushtuns, and the Urdu Muslims.

CRF MEDIA: www.crfmedia.com Among the resources available from this organization are DVDs on Bangladesh and India, as well as one on the Bania people of India.

INTERNET RESOURCES

Note: Internet addresses (URLs) change frequently. If any of these links do not work, just search for the name of the resource, e.g. “Joshua Project.”

South Asia: <http://www.go2southasia.org/> This is the International Mission Board’s web site for the South Asia region, and it includes a wide variety of resources on the countries and peoples of this area.

Google: www.google.com There is a tremendous amount of information available on the Internet on people groups. Using the right “search engine” can help you locate this information in the most efficient manner. Google is a very useful search engine for accessing Internet resources. Helpful hints for making the best use of it include:

--Use the “**Advanced Search**” screen for searching for general sources. You can enter all of the alternate names for a people group in the field called “with at least one of the words,” and Google will search for all of them. If you wish to limit your search to a people group in a particular country, you can add that country name in the field called “with the exact phrase.”

--If you want to find news stories about a people group, use the “**News**” search feature.

--If you want to find pictures of a people group, try using the “**Images**” search feature.

Peplegroups.org: www.peplegroups.org This site contains the database created by the Global Research Department of the International Mission Board. The database is a comprehensive global list of people groups and provides information such as language, primary religion, availability of the Jesus film and status of evangelization.

PeopleTeams: www.pepleteams.org and <http://all.pepleteams.org> These sites host web pages for many mission teams, including those of the International Mission Board. You can search by region of the world, by people group name, by urban center or by country.

WorldCat: <http://www.worldcat.org/> This site allows the user to search for books in multiple online library catalogs, and locate copies that are available in the local area. It can also be helpful in getting the local library to borrow copies from another participating library anywhere in the country.

Asia Harvest: www.asiaharvest.org This site has good information about work in Bangladesh, Bhutan and India. Click on “People Group Profiles” and then select a country to get list of profiles.

Joshua Project: <http://www.joshuaproject.net/> This is another good site for unreached people group profiles. A helpful feature is that the profiles often contain links to additional sources of information.

Ethnologue: <http://www.ethnologue.com/> This site contains a comprehensive database of languages and dialects, searchable by language name or by country.

The Commission Magazine: <http://www.tconline.org/> This link takes you to the online version of the IMB’s publication *The Commission*. There are a number of articles here on people groups. Additional information can be accessed by clicking on the link “Archives.”

Amazon: www.amazon.com This is one of the world's largest online bookstores. A new feature allows you to search the entire text of many books.

Library of Congress: www.loc.gov This link takes you to the web site for one of the largest and most comprehensive research libraries in the world. While the Library of Congress rarely lends its books, this site can be useful for identifying materials that might be borrowed from other libraries.

Yale University Library: <http://www.library.yale.edu/> This link takes you to the online site for the library at Yale University, which has an especially strong collection in anthropology.

CIA World Factbook: <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html> This is the online version of an annual guide to country information, published by the Central Intelligence Agency.

DATABASES

Please check with your local public or academic library for the availability of databases that could be useful in people group research. Some helpful ones are:

Anthropological Literature on Disc, New York: G.K. Hall & Co. This is a CD-ROM index to journal articles on anthropology. The index is produced by the staff of the Tozzer Library at Harvard University.

Dissertation Abstracts, University Microfilms. Available through many online services, this database provides information on dissertations from most of the major U.S. universities.

Religion Index, Evanston, IL: American Theological Library Association. This database is available in many forms, including online services, CD-ROMs, and print editions. It includes citations to journal articles going back to the 1940s, and is searchable by people group name.

FirstSearch, OCLC, Inc.: This resource consists of several databases, including WorldCat, a combined listing of 45,000 library catalogs (54 million items). WorldCat is very helpful in locating books that your local library may not own, but that could be borrowed through "interlibrary loan." There are many other databases that can be accessed through FirstSearch, depending on the subscription package chosen by each library.

Dialog, Dialog Corporation. This is actually a group of several hundred separate databases that share common searching protocols. The subjects covered range from history and anthropology to business and technical/scientific areas. There are both full-text and citation databases included, and each one has its own pricing structure.

LexisNexis. This is one of many full-text news databases available. It can be helpful in obtaining current articles about people groups or cities from newspapers, magazines and wire services.