

Reach India through *Adult Literacy Classes*



India's Extreme Need

Nearly 305 million Indian adults are illiterate¹—unable to read prices, count change, or understand financial documents. Dishonest lenders prey on illiterates, tricking them into high interest loans that they can never repay. In extreme cases, illiterate parents may choose to sell their children to work off their loan balance.

Most illiterates are Dalits—“Untouchables” who are treated as less than human. Many survive by working as daily wage laborers. They endure hazardous working conditions and cannot be sure they are paid fair wages. In rural areas, children are often more valuable as workers than students, and many parents do not allow them to attend school.

Literacy brings hope
for a *brighter future*

The Opportunity

Through Adult Literacy Classes, we have the opportunity to bring radical hope to men and women living with ingrained notions of worthlessness and despair.

We partner exclusively with indigenous churches and missions to implement literacy training. In India, Christians are known for providing high-quality education. Also, deeply-held values of justice, hope, and diligence make these groups very attractive candidates for partnership—especially a country known for corruption.

By introducing the written word and an equitable Christian worldview simultaneously, Adult Literacy Classes empower personal change, activate holistic community transformation and inspire faith.



¹ All statistics courtesy of Census of India, 2001, unless otherwise noted

² World Christian Encyclopedia, 2001



[Organization Name]’s role is to equip indigenous workers to uplift India’s most destitute communities through literacy. Trusted Indian partners recommend qualified individuals to start literacy classes in their own neighborhoods. We train these dedicated volunteers to bring literacy to India’s most impoverished rural villages and urban slums.

Adult Literacy students who work diligently for two hours per night, five days a week, for 52 weeks, can achieve 5th grade level literacy. Instructors teach life skills like how to prepare nutritious food, avoid debt, save money, and become active citizens. Many students experience a 57% increase in income during the one-year course.

Students also take part in health, social awareness, and income generation sessions conducted by local doctors, community health practitioners, and social workers. Five students from each class participate in additional income generation training, learning to make, market, and sell locally-sourced products.

[\$Amount] will underwrite [number] literacy classes and reach [number] illiterate adults.

Sunil’s Story: *From Illiterate to Entrepreneur*

Sunil had little to show for his 28 years. The illiterate son of agricultural laborers didn’t bother to dream of a better future for himself. Occasionally he helped his parents work their land. But most days Sunil sat idle in their small mud hut.

Sunil’s life took on new meaning when he became the first person in his family to learn how to read and write— through [Organization Name]’s Adult Literacy program. He also learned how to make household items like candles and detergent.

Every Tuesday and Thursday Sunil pedals a bicycle through his village, selling the products and earning over \$15 a week. His business has taken off—he even hired a sales assistant who earns 75 cents a day.



“I am grateful to God for giving me this wonderful opportunity to become a literate person,” Sunil says. “Now I am leading a better life.”