

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

8 February 2023

Eurasia Region



Pakistan

In 1996, the work of the Church of the Nazarene began in Pakistan, where one of the oldest civilizations in the world flourished, dating back at least 5,000 years, the Indus Valley civilization. Much of present-day Pakistan has experienced many invasions from other cultures and civilizations, which dominated the area for long periods of time. The Mughal Empire flourished in the 16th and 17th centuries, and the British dominated the region during most of the 18th century. Then came separation from Great Britain in 1947, which brought independence as the “partitioning” of the Indian sub-continent between India, Pakistan, and East Bengal (now Bangladesh) created separate countries. There have been numerous wars and extensive ongoing conflict over disputed areas. This is one of the most politically contentious areas in the world today, and the Church of the Nazarene is there, extending the grace of God and showing His love.



21,190 members



319 fully organized churches on 1 district



48 District Licensed and 35 Ordained Ministers

PRAYER



- Pray for the churches in Pakistan as they continue to work in the aftermath of the violent floods of 2022 and seek to serve the needs of the most severely impacted populations with the compassion of Christ. Pray for the
- disenfranchised Sindhi people (Hindus living in a majority Muslim nation) and other minority or marginalized people groups living in Pakistan, that through the work of the church, they may find dignity, equity, and transformation because of the work of the Church of the Nazarene working among them.
- Pray for churches and church leaders who are being persecuted and threatened by landlords and neighbors and for those who are still struggling with COVID restrictions.

PRAISE



- We praise God for His blessings upon the work of Nazarenes, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, and JESUS Film, which have led to church growth, new water pumps for villages with no clean water access, food distribution, education, and community projects in the Sindh region.
- We praise God for the faithfulness of Nazarenes everywhere and for the resources that make ministry among the dispossessed possible, which is growing and stabilizing the churches in Pakistan.
- We praise God for the support given through several Nazarene entities to build church structures on land purchased through the sacrifice of local Nazarenes in Pakistan



Devastating floods plagued Pakistan from June through October 2022, impacting nearly 20% of the population in all four provinces of the country. Nearly 300 million people were seriously impacted by these floods, at a time when the government was facing political turmoil and the economy was in danger of a financial meltdown.

The Church of the Nazarene responded immediately with emergency aid and uplift. The most devastation was felt among the Sindhi people of the interior Sindh Province, a desert-like land near the borders of India. The people of this area are often the bottom rung of society, working as day laborers for rich landowners who treat them as “indentured servants” with little hope of climbing out to freedom and dignity.

Generally ignored by government, most aid comes through nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). The Church of the Nazarene has been able to establish work here, providing basic provisions and offering the touch of Jesus that changes lives. Emergency food programs, basic education, fresh-water projects (hand-pump water stations), and church planting have been changing the scene in Sindh.



Two church buildings have been constructed with the help of Nazarene entities on land donated by believers who sold their livestock to see structures built that would indicate a long-term commitment to the region, and from those locations, over 20 house churches have been planted in villages that are open to the Good News of the Gospel. Many have come to a personal experience of knowing the One who makes all things possible for those who seem hopelessly overlooked. God overlooks nothing! He sees, and He cares, and He calls upon His people to reach out and make a difference in the lives of those who cry out to Him in their distresses. Now, many of these new Sindhi Christians are reaching out to their Hindu family members, neighbors, and friends, and lives are being changed by God's grace. Flood waters have receded, but the Living Water is springing up through the Church of the Nazarene in Pakistan. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to World Evangelism Fund and for your participation through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries in times of crisis.

Could You Serve?

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