



Greatly honored are those  
who hunger and thirst for justice.

## October 2011 • Presbyterian Women Global Exchange to India

Every three years, a group of Presbyterian women travels to another part of the world to hear the joys and pain that our sisters there experience, and to share faith stories and ministries with one another. It is a global exchange because, the following year, a group of women from the same part of the world is invited to itinerate in synods and participate in the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, to share their stories.

Committing to partnership with our Indian sisters, Presbyterian women will

- celebrate our faithfulness,
- listen and learn how human trafficking and environmental issues are impacting woman and children in Asia, and
- live God's call to justice and action.

For an application, or to learn more about Presbyterian Women's Global Exchange, visit [www.pcusa.org/pw/missionmatters](http://www.pcusa.org/pw/missionmatters), or call the PW associate for mission at 502/569-5402.



Blessed are those who hunger and thirst  
for righteousness, for they will be filled.

—Matthew 5:6, NRSV



# Know before you go . . .

## Facts about India\*

Capital: New Delhi

Land Area: 1,269,219 square miles

Population: 1,166,079,217 (July 2009 estimate)

Life Expectancy: 69.89 years

Literacy: 73.4% male, 47.8% female

Economy: Petroleum products, textile goods, gems and jewelry, software, engineering goods, chemicals, leather.

GDP per capita income: \$2,900

Religions: Hindu (80.5%), Muslim (13.4%), Christian (2.3%), Sikh (1.9%), other (1.8%), unspecified (0.1%)

## Facts about the United States\*

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Land Area: 9,629,091 square miles

Population: 307,212,123

Life Expectancy: 77.11 years

Literacy: 99%

GDP per capita income: \$47,500

Religions: Christian (78.5%), Jewish (1.7%), Buddhist (0.7%), Muslim (0.6%), other (2.5%), unaffiliated (12.1%), none (4%)

## PC(USA) Partnerships in India

PC(USA) with Church of North India, Church of South India and Presbyterian Church of India

Grace Presbytery with Church of South India

Sacramento Presbytery with Joining Hands Against Hunger

## The Trip in Context

Presbyterian Women has long been concerned about the problem of human trafficking, particularly its effects on women and children. The Churchwide Coordinating Team has chosen the issue as a special focus for the 2009–2012 triennium.

## Recommended Reading

### Web sites

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India>

<http://india.gov.in/>

[www.incredibleindia.org/](http://www.incredibleindia.org/)

[www.lonelyplanet.com/india](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/india)

[www.pcusa.org/worldwide/india/](http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide/india/)

### Books

*India: A History*, by John Keay (New York: Grove Press, 2001)

*A Concise History of India*, by Barbara D. Metcalf and Thomas R. Metcalf (Cambridge: Cambridge University, 2001)

*India* (Lonely Planet Country Guide), by Sarina Singh, et al. (Oakland, Calif.: Lonely Planet, 2009)

*In Spite of the Gods: The Strange Rise of Modern India*, by Edward Luce (New York: Doubleday, 2007)

*The Argumentative Indian*, by Amartya Sen (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005)

*Separate Journeys: Short Stories by Contemporary Indian Women*, by Geeta Dharmarajan (Columbia, S.C.: Columbia University, 2004)

*Best Indian Short Stories: Vol. 2*, selected by Khushwant Singh (New Delhi: HarperCollins India, 2006)

*Freedom at Midnight: The Epic Drama of India's Struggle for Independence*, by Dominique Lapierre and Larry Collins (New York: HarperCollins, 1997)

*A Fine Balance*, by Rohinton Mistry (New York: Vintage, 2001)

*The God of Small Things*, by Arundhati Roy (New York: Harper Perennial, 1998)

*The Inheritance of Loss*, by Kiran Desai (New York: Atlantic Monthly, 2005)

*Interpreter of Maladies*, by Jhumpa Lahiri (New York: Mariner, 1999)

Other works of Jhumpa Lahiri

\* Facts taken from the 2009 *CIA World Factbook* and the PC(USA)'s 2010 *Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*.