

MUSLIMS IN Hyderabad

Live, love and serve in this strategic city! |



Hyderabad is known as the "City of Pearls" due to its role in the trade of those precious jewels.

6.8 MILLION
Population

2.8 MILLION
Muslims

ANDHRA PRADESH
State

\$870
Avg. Annual Income Per Capita

MAP OF INDIA



ABOUT HYDERABAD

In Hyderabad, you'll find an uncommon blend of North and South India's ethnic groups, of rich and poor, with various religions and widely spoken languages, living together in the same neighborhoods.

Located on one side of Hyderabad, and surrounded by modern luxuries, is the Information Technology (IT) industrial giant, HITEC City. At Hyderabad's heart, there are slums...home to nearly one-third of the city's population.

As one of the fastest growing IT capitals in India, Hyderabad offers many opportunities for start-up businesses. And the city's impoverished Muslim communities could be greatly served by NGOs, community-based initiatives and social entrepreneurship.

Recently, the Times of India recognized Hyderabad as the *Best Heritage City of India*. Hyderabad's rich Indian culture includes Charminar (*four towers*), the landmark monument for which the city is known, as well as the ruins of a 15th century city, Golkonda.

ANDHRA PRADESH



LIVABILITY

Hyderabad occupies 250 square miles of plains and plateau land in India's southeastern province of Andhra Pradesh. Known for its pleasant climate, Hyderabad has a more temperate climate than other places.

As India's fourth largest city, Hyderabad is accessible from anywhere. All major Indian airlines, as well as a dozen International carriers, fly into Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. The city is also accessible by bus and train, and there is an extensive bus system within Hyderabad. Aerobus Express provides convenient transportation from the airport to locations throughout the city.

In general, the cost of living varies with location. For example, monthly rent on a 3 bedroom apartment in the city's center is around \$400, while a similar apartment in the outskirts is about \$250.

Wireless internet and stores that carry Western goods are widely available. Hyderabad's infrastructure is recognized as superior to that of most any city in India.

HYDERABAD

Overview & OPPORTUNITIES

Praying about moving there? |

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to its Hindu majority, the city has a large (41%) Muslim minority. There are also small numbers of followers of other religions, including Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains. Hyderabad is actually a hub of Christian ministry in India, but only a handful of workers are involved with Muslims. The largest Muslim concentrations are in the area known as the *Old City*. With only one couple from *God's Team* living and working among them, these are the city's most unengaged.

The largest unengaged Muslim people groups in Hyderabad are the Shaikh, Sayyid, Pashtun, Mawalud, Moghal and Ansari.

Though Hyderabad's Muslims are predominantly Sunni, and most are highly educated, many practice Folk Islam. Muslim folk healers serve large numbers of people from all of the city's religious communities, Sunnis, Shias and Hindus.



The IT and Pharmaceutical industries provide much of the money for living well in the city.

SOCIETY

Hindi, Deccani-Urdu, Telugu and English are the most widely spoken languages in Hyderabad. The city's larger Muslim people groups speak Urdu, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam. English is the language of formal business and administration.

Foreigners are commonplace and well received in Hyderabad's metropolitan areas. While the presence of Westerners in the Old City is uncommon, resistance would not be expected.

Two situations represent unique advantages for ministry in Hyderabad. First, India is granting business visas to most countries. Secondly, it is not unusual in Hyderabad for Muslims and Christians to live as neighbors.



Half of India's population is under the age of 25. Hyderabad is a great place to reach them through technology, the arts, sports, and education.

ECONOMY

Hyderabad is a major hub for India's Information Technology, Pharmaceutical, and Biotech Industries.

The city is also home to the Cinema of Andhra Pradesh – also called Telugu Cinema or *Tollywood* – number two in terms of Indian film production. As with any major Indian city, the contrasts between wealth and poverty are stark. While parts of Hyderabad are highly developed, with top notch medical care, malls and schools, nearly one-third of the population lives in slums.

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Is God speaking to your heart about the Muslim people in India? Hyderabad offers a unique opportunity for influencing how Muslims throughout India learn about the Savior they have never known.