

# NORTHWESTERN UTTAR PRADESH

# Muslims in Rampur, India

Questions? Want to explore moving here?



Rampur boasts a number of striking architectural features not often found in a city of its pleasantly smaller size.

**325,300**  
Estimated Population

**222,000**  
Muslims

**URDU**  
Language

**\$550**  
Avg. Annual Income Per Capita

## MAP OF INDIA



## ABOUT RAMPUR CITY AND DISTRICT

The Indian city and district of Rampur are particularly remarkable because both are home to Muslim majorities. The city offers the rare opportunity to live among the greatest percentage of Muslims in Uttar Pradesh and to be just a 5-hour drive from countless other unengaged Muslim people groups living in and around the large, main city of Delhi.

**No one from 'God's team' is now—or has been—working in Rampur for a very long time.** You might consider this city as one of the largest 'black holes', spiritually speaking—or as a fresh canvas on which to paint a new work.

Previously an independent kingdom, ruled by a *Nawab*, Rampur feels separate, conservative, and ancient. Along with unparalleled opportunities for new connections, this would be a rich place for learning Urdu and engaging Muslims. *An experienced Team Leader will coach a new team into this area.*

## UTTAR PRADESH



## LIVABILITY

Located in Northern Uttar Pradesh, the Sutlej River runs through the middle of Rampur District, carving the valley in two. Farms cover long stretches of land. During summers, the temperature is generally between 86° and 109° F. Winter temperatures range from 41° and 77° F. After rainy season, the beautiful mountain ranges of Nainital can be seen to the north.

Situated along India's national Highway 24, and well connected by both roadways and railways, Rampur is a trade center for grain and other agricultural products. Located along an ancient trade route to Afghanistan, Ladakh, China and Tibet, Rampur city is known as one of the best shopping hubs, where nearly any exotic item can be found.

Locals or Ibero-Americans will fit well here because of political climate and scrutiny in this small-town feeling city. Learning language in Delhi first, and taking trips here to develop welcome and a strategy for entry would be wise.



# RAMPUR DISTRICT Overview & OPPORTUNITIES

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## SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

According to many city residents, Rampur's concentration of Muslims is even higher than the conservative 68% that is officially reported. Hindus are the largest minority group, and other faiths make up a very small percentage.

Regardless of creed, religious practices and festivals are part of everyday life in Rampur. Muslim, Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist and Christian celebrations are woven into the city's fabric of life. For the most part, Muslims and Hindus share a peaceful co-existence.

There is no discernible presence of international or national members of *God's Team* working in Rampur, though there are rumors of some Muslim background believers in town. The pastor of one Christian church has a heart for reaching Muslims and may be a potential partner for a team that would move into the city. **Muslims here are truly spiritually unengaged.**



*It is said that the true identity of Indian culture was born in Rampur.*

## SOCIETY

Rampur's literacy rate of 53.7% is much lower than the 64.3% national average. Urdu and Hindi are the languages of Rampur, but some English is spoken. Though the presence of Westerners is not common, locals respond as a village would—with curiosity, interest and receptivity.

The city is distinctly divided into the old and the new. In the new city, modernity abounds with several contemporary stores—at least one of which carries Western foods—and a state-of-the-art planetarium. Universities in this part of the city attract students from outside of India. **Those wishing to live in Rampur could apply for student visas to study at the universities—or perhaps professors could teach.**

The old sector is totally Urdu speaking and would present a great language learning experience. Here, the electric supply seems reliable and city water is pumped in. The old city's main market is more than adequate for most daily needs. Several historic sites within the old city create civic pride.



The rare and valuable collection at Rampur's Raza Library includes the original first translation of the Qur'an.

## ECONOMY

Blessed with fertile land, Rampur has an agriculture-based economy. What little industry that exists is provided by agricultural products—wine-making, sugar processing, textile weaving and manufacturing agricultural implements. The city's major cash crop is mentha (*a species of mint*). **These factors suggest possibilities for business enterprises such as textile products for export.**

The primary issue behind Rampur's socioeconomic backwardness is an inadequacy of sanitation facilities. The government has assigned a high priority to correcting these issues.

Rampur though, is one of the largest commercial centers in North India. It is also the site of the annual Lavi Fair, one of North India's biggest events.

*If God is challenging you to be His ambassador in a city where opportunities abound, give Rampur your prayerful consideration so this highly strategic city does not remain unengaged for another thousand years.*