

# MALABAR MAPPILA MUSLIMS IN Kannur District



**2.5 MILLION**  
Estimated Population

**742,000**  
Muslims

**MAPPILA**  
10 Million  
UNENGAGED

**0**  
Known movement,  
Muslim-focused workers

## MAP OF INDIA



## KANNUR DISTRICT



## ABOUT KANNUR

Kannur, a **coastal** district, steeped in history, is said to be the ancient port of Naura, from whose shores King Solomon's ships collected timber to build the great temple of Jerusalem. With a history of trading with the Greeks, Romans, and the Arabs, (and later an important town for British East India Company), Marco Polo aptly named nature-rich Kannur as the great emporium of the spice trade.

The Western Ghats rise to the east of Kannur, while the Lakshadweep Sea lines the west of the still **quaint city** of Kannur, which still has a slower, small-town feel. The Communist party holds five of the six areas within Kannur, probably in an effort to keep community and farming initiatives born by the people away from past heavy-handed government intervention.

Interestingly, the population in this one district is roughly equal to the population of Kuwait, or the state of Nevada. Because of **high unemployment**, most families have ties to the **Arab Gulf** by sending a member to work in the United Arab Emirates and send home funding. Many spacious homes built with Gulf money are interspersed throughout the District.

With literacy rates in the ninety percentiles, **education** is highly valued and practiced, with the highest percentage of girls going to school of anywhere in India.

This is a **beautiful** town, with beautiful, **welcoming people** in a city with an equal number of Hindus and Muslims, and a sizable Christian population all living together in relatively peaceful relations.

# MALABAR MAPPILA MUSLIMS IN KANNUR DISTRICT

## Overview & OPPORTUNITIES

Praying about moving here? |

### LIVABILITY

Half of the population (*about 1.2 million*) live in villages, with strong community ties, self-sufficient areas with their own centers of worship, corner shops, and schools. A majority of the population is dependent directly or indirectly on agriculture. Tea and coffee plantations, timber, paddy fields, and the production of spices such as pepper, cinnamon and cardamom are important revenue sources. Kannur District lines the high country, while six main rivers flow through the jungles in the lowlands, emptying into the ocean.

The other half of the population lives in the urban towns, sprawling out from the main coastal city also called Kannur (54,000). Kannur has several malls, forts, hospitals (*including a high number of Ayurveda options*), tourist beaches, a good railway system and they are building the fourth international airport in Kerala.

During the hot season of March through May, the extreme heat coupled with 100% humidity, and often scheduled outages of power, slows down the pace of even the most ambitious. Months of monsoon rain fall during June-August as the land drinks its fill. Flooding isn't usually an issue because of good infrastructure.

### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We believe the greatest opportunity in Kannur is to mobilize the sizable Christian population (about 260,000) to reach out their Muslim neighbors. Cohabiting for a thousand years, a **catalyst** is needed to bring in **fresh vision** and inspire a desire to reach out to the Mappila people group, which numbers up to ten million in the state of Kerala. Kannur could be a **starting point of a movement that spreads** across the state, because of its history of influencing the state in other areas, including government policies.

A **Mappila-dialect translation** is in progress, originating from Muslim Background Believers in Kannur and needs a champion to come alongside this important translation as a tool in a movement vision.

Is God speaking to your heart about the **Malabar Mappila Muslim** people? Kannur offers a unique opportunity for influencing how Muslims throughout the entire state of Kerala will experience the good news of the Kingdom.



### ENTRY OPTIONS

It could be possible for an **entrepreneur** to apply for a business visa and open a branch from existing kingdom businesses originating in nearby Calicut, including already established Information Technology, Tourism, Education or English Language Center businesses. Retired or semi-retired couples also make sense here on **tourist** visas during non-heat months, living in homestays. Someone with experience in **agriculture** might find a way to bless this district also. Finally, **student** visas at local universities may be a viable entry option for the first few years to learn language, culture and establish relational networks in your field of study.