



Serving. Training.
Energizing Partnerships.

INDIA

History of the Partnership

It was in India in the late 1800's that Baptists in Canada began to organize themselves into associations and conventions for the purpose of mission overseas and at home. Those early exploits in mission began with a loose partnership with Baptists in the United States and established a precedent that has marked the work of Canadian Baptist ever since, namely that the work of the Kingdom is best done in consultation and partnership.

In the spring of 1874, after consultation with their American and Indian colleagues, Canadian Baptist moved to Kakinada in the state of Andhra Pradesh. This act symbolized the birth of an independent Canadian mission.

Over the century that followed the numbers of Canadians involved in India grew dramatically as did the variety of ministries necessary to meet the needs of the people. The majority of these were from the outcaste Hindu community, known also as *Harijans* (Children of God), referred to today as Dalits - people at the bottom rung of the Hindu caste system, destined for the worst tasks in the society, without rights, without land, at the mercy of the higher castes. It was

amongst the *Harijans* that the Gospel of God's grace took root, prospered and grew.

Christian schools were established where children received good education. Institutions for higher learning followed as did hospitals and clinics. Teachers, pastors, doctors, nurses, and a whole host of professionals received training in these schools. Eventually the schools and many institutions were turned over to the government or run as local private enterprises. At the beginning of the 20th Century the work spread to other language and tribal groups – Oriya, Soura and Kui speaking peoples in the Southern part of the state of Orissa. Again, Canadian personnel developed significant ministries that resulted in the creation of independent churches among the Oriyas, Souras and Kuis.

The difficulties faced by missionaries in the 19th and early part of the 20th centuries were many. Grassroots church planting in a sea of Hinduism; preparing new leaders; meeting everyday medical needs for a people in a country too poor to provide health care for its people to name a few. As well, finding a Christian response to major social issues - many related to the caste system. Such as multitudes living in isolated villages at a subsistence level, and in areas subject to devastating natural and human influenced disasters.

These same challenges face the churches of India today in the 21st Century. India has a greater population of the poor than any other nation on the face of the earth. Huge environmental problems, social issues, natural disasters that wreak havoc on the countryside, villages, towns and cities, all need to be addressed. In spite of this, CBM's



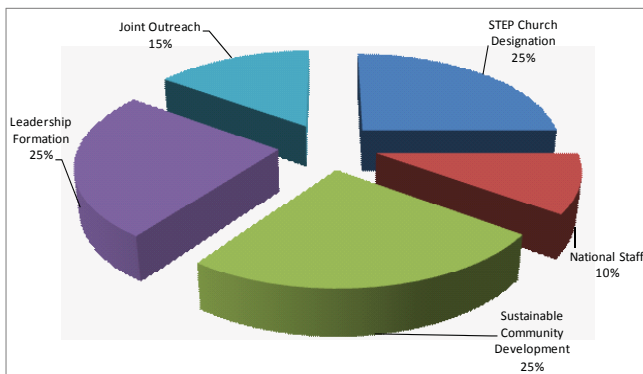
About 80% of the population lives on \$2 a day or less; nearly 35% live on \$1 a day or less.

Indian partners have well trained men and women fully engaged in Integral ministry moving forward in partnership to bring hope and love to a growing nation.

Your Contribution at Work

True partnership entails honouring the ministry priorities of our partners. Therefore, the financial contribution of STEP partners will be allocated according to our international partner's priorities.

Allocation of the STEP commitment of funds is represented in the chart below:



Community Development

CBM's relief and development department, The Sharing Way, partners with a number of groups in community development.

BLESS (Burden of Love for the Economically and Socially Suppressed), COCH (Council of Christian Hospitals) and Samatha Community Development.

Each project works with the target communities to provide agriculture training (including environmental conservation, use of bio-fertilizers and pesticides and appropriate use of plastics), seeds and tree seedlings, basic education, in particular operating literacy centers, health care including immunization and HIV & AIDS education. In addition the project provides leadership training and income generating activities to build the capacity of the community.

TSW also partners in a **Child Labour Rehabilitation Program** that provides identified child labourers and their families with the support required for the children to receive an education and learn basic reading, writing, arithmetic and vocational skills. An awareness program targeted at parent and child labour employers outlines the problems with child labour.

Leadership Development

Over the past 130 years, Canadian Baptists have been keenly involved in training young Indian leaders for ministries of evangelism, church leadership



and theological education. Through Pastors' workshops, young leaders' summits, women's programs for evangelism and higher theological education in Andhra Pradesh, your support will enable the Church in India to have a strong Christian impact in the years to come.

National Staff Workers

Since the 1980s, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain working visas for expatriate missionaries in India. But at the same time, CBM has been blessed with remarkable Indian staff – men and women of integrity, Christian character and vision, who are shaping the future direction of the Church. From case-workers in development programs to theologians, CBM has a very strong national staff team who need your financial support. 10% of your investment in India will help provide a portion of the salary for our staff.

Joint Outreach

Today in India, there are approximately 2,500 unreached people groups. In fact, it is estimated that of the 1.1 billion people in the subcontinent, only 2% are Christian, whereas 80% are Hindu and 13% are Muslim. Yet Christian mission has a long and significant history. Your support will help enable Indians to bring the light of the Gospel to some of these unreached peoples in India.



Canadian Baptist Ministries
7185 Millcreek Drive
Mississauga ON L5N 5R4

Tel: 905.821.3533
Fax: 905.826.3441
www.cbmin.org