

India Project

Information Packet

Location: Khunti, India

Project Dates: February 28 - March 10, 2019

Optional Excursion Dates: March 10-11, 2019

Participation Fee: \$1,470*

Children 12 and under: \$1,320

Optional Excursion: \$210

(Age determined on the start date of the project)



** International and domestic flights are not included in the participation fee. All amounts listed in document are in U.S. dollars.*

Maranatha in India

Maranatha has been working in India since 1998. So far, more than 1,600 projects, which include churches and schools, have been completed. Yet even after so many projects, the need for places of worship and education continues to grow—thanks to the spread of the Gospel message.

India has a desperate need for schools, as many children and young people have no access to education. Through the support of generous donors, Maranatha has been constructing large campuses in rural parts of India. Volunteers have built both One-Day School campuses and Elementary Education Centers, which consist of six to ten classrooms and a large multi-purpose room. These structures provide Christian education to countless students each year.

Project Overview

Volunteers on this project will be working at the Khunti Adventist School in eastern India near the city of Ranchi. The school was established in 1937 and currently has 1,300 students from nursery through high school, and they turn away anywhere from 200-300 students a year due to lack of space! The teachers are committed to teaching about the Love of Jesus. About half of the student body is not Adventist, so Khunti is truly a mission school.

The school has requested Maranatha's assistance in building new classrooms on campus. The elementary students are scattered around campus in old buildings and several classrooms were recently torn down due to their age and condition. In addition, there is not a suitable auditorium for the entire student body to meet

Project Schedule

Thursday, February 28
Arrival in Ranchi, India

Friday, March 1
Orientation and first work day

Saturday, March 2
Worship with the local congregation

Sunday - Friday, March 3 - 8
Work days

Saturday, March 9
Worship with the local congregation.

Sunday, March 10
Departure from Ranchi or continue on optional excursion

OPTIONAL EXCURSION

Sunday, March 10
Fly from Ranchi to Delhi, drive to Agra.

Monday, March 11
Sunrise Taj Mahal tour, Agra Fort, return to Delhi for evening departures.

together. They currently use a cafeteria that they have to switch from lunch tables to rows of chairs for worship two times a day!

Maranatha volunteers on this project will be assisting with the construction of a 12-classroom Elementary Education Center that will have enough space for the Primary school to meet as well as a large auditorium in the middle. If we have enough volunteers, we would also like to reach out into the community through activities such as vacation Bible school programs and health education.

Accommodations

Volunteers will stay at the La Lac Sarovar Portico Hotel in Ranchi, approximately 45 minutes away from the Khunti school. The rooms are very spacious and newly renovated with a mix of twin and queen beds. You can expect double occupancy rooms with private bathrooms. All bedding and towels are provided; however, washcloths are not commonly provided in India, so you should plan to bring your own. The hotel has hot water, air conditioning, and Wi-Fi. Please note that the Wi-Fi speed might not be as fast as you might be accustomed to at home, so don't plan on any video conferences or music or video streaming. The groups will have meals at the hotel where skilled Maranatha cooks will oversee all food preparation. Together, the group will travel to the school by private transportation.

Volunteers should plan on staying in double occupancy rooms with a roommate. If you would like to room with someone in particular, please let us know. During the project, there are some single occupancy rooms available for an extra cost of \$520 per person. If you are interested in a single occupancy room, please let Maranatha know at the time of registration by emailing volunteer@maranatha.org or calling (916) 774-7700.

For more information about the Sarovar Hotel visit <http://www.sarovarhotels.com/le-lac-sarovar-ranchi/>

Optional Excursion - Taj Mahal - \$210

After the project, volunteers can choose to extend their stay in India by a day to visit the world famous, Taj Mahal. This excursion has an additional fee of \$210, which will cover hotels, meals, ground transportation, entrance fees, tour guides, and insurance during the excursion days. The fee does not cover the domestic flight from Ranchi to Delhi on March 10th. Volunteers will be responsible for booking their own domestic flight from Ranchi to Delhi on March 10. Details on the specific flight to book are listed in the Travel Information section of this packet.

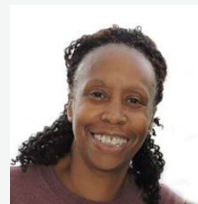
On Sunday morning, volunteers will fly together from Ranchi to Delhi and then drive a few hours south by private bus to the city of Agra, home to the Taj Mahal. The following morning, the group will enjoy a sunrise tour of the Taj Mahal, a stunning marble mausoleum considered one of the world's architectural masterpieces. Mughal emperor Shah Jahan built the Taj Mahal as a memorial to his wife, and the tour guide will share information about the life of the emperor and the construction of the beautiful building. That afternoon, the group will also visit Agra Fort, a large complex that housed and protected many generations of royalty and foreign leaders.

That evening, the group will drive back to Delhi to catch evening departures home. Flight guidelines are listed in the Travel Information section of this packet.

Leadership

Loretta Spivey | Project Coordinator

Loretta has worked with Maranatha since 2003. Throughout the years she has served as an Insight magazine reporter, as well as an outreach coordinator, spiritual coordinator, and project coordinator on several Maranatha projects, including the Ultimate Workout, Multiple Group Project, and several Open Team projects. In each role, she has focused on connecting



participants with Christ. Although the Pittsburgh Steelers still hold her allegiance, her family now calls Kernersville, North Carolina, home. She and her husband have five amazing children; most of them have participated in mission trips. She looks forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will work on this project.

Lorin Rubbert | Construction Superintendent

Lorin is from North Dakota, where he resides with his wife Luanne and works as a construction superintendent in the oil industry. He has also worked as a farmer and pilot for more than 40 years and owns a farm in Saskatchewan. He likes spending time in his remote wilderness cabin in northern Saskatchewan, where he enjoys photography, flying, and hanging out with family and friends. Lorin became involved with Maranatha after reading a copy of Maranatha's magazine, The Volunteer. After his first trip, he fell in love with India and the people he met there. Lorin will be leading the construction aspect of the project as the construction superintendent.



Sylvia Wilson | Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sylvia joins the group from North Carolina. She is currently retired, but before that she was a principal and teacher for 34 years and also served as the Director of Women's Ministries for the South Atlantic Conference. Her first Maranatha project was in 2017, but she has served with many other organizations and churches in Venezuela, India, and several countries on the continent of Africa. Sylvia loves serving the Lord wherever He leads. On this project she will be coordinating the children's ministry program and looks forward to meeting new people and introducing them to Jesus.

No Photo
Available

Vinish Wilson | Maranatha Country Director

Vinish has been working with Maranatha in India since 2001. His sunny personality, organization skills, and commitment to the mission of Maranatha has endeared him to many volunteers who have worked in India. Vinish will assist with in-country details and make sure everything flows smoothly behind-the-scenes. Vinish and his wife Rachel have two young children.



Expenses

All amounts listed are in U.S. dollars.

The participation fee paid to Maranatha covers housing, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, excursions, short-term travel insurance, a Maranatha t-shirt, and luggage tags. The participation fee is tax-deductible. The optional excursion fee is not tax-deductible.

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by January 28 due to application processing time. Wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

All prices are listed in U.S. dollars. Payments can be made by cash or check sent to the Maranatha office in California (please include your name and "India Project - February 2019") or by credit or debit card online or over the phone.

For Canadian tax-deductible receipts, payments must be made by check to the Maranatha Volunteers International (Canada) Association (address located at the end of this information packet. At this time Maranatha cannot issue tax-deductible receipts for credit card payments.

If you are fundraising or receiving donations please either have them sent directly to you or work with your local church treasurer to collect funds and issue tax-deductible receipts, since it is difficult for Maranatha to track individual small checks. If your church will not work with you, please wait until you have collected the full amount of your participation fee before submitting your participation fee to Maranatha.

Estimate of Additional Costs

- **Flights:** \$1,500 - 2,400
- **Passport:** \$130 or \$110 for renewal
- **Visa:** \$100

About India

The diversity of India's culture and history has made this country an intriguing place of contrasts. The beggar on the street wears a cheerfully vibrant sari. Hunger is widespread, but the air is thick with simmering spices. The country is crippled by illiteracy, but some of the world's brightest thinkers have emerged from India's cities and countryside. Blending modernity and antiquity, India is pushing forward to make social and economic progress while reconciling the future with its past. These juxtaposed details are what make India a captivating country to visit and a fascinating place to work with Maranatha.

In its early history, India was the center of fiscal and cultural wealth as art and literature flourished and the trade of spices, ivory, and silk abounded. Hinduism became the dominant belief system, although Islam also wove its way into the region over the years. India's prosperity made it a desirable target, and the British began to colonize the region in the 1600s. Efforts to liberate India started 200 years later, but it wasn't until Mohandas Gandhi introduced a nonviolent approach did the Indians achieve independence from the British in 1947.

Today, India is the second most populous nation in the world with more than 1.2 billion people. The impact of this huge population is rampant poverty, which has caused illiteracy, inadequate access to drinking water, and widespread illness. Potentially contributing to the overall poverty is a cultural remnant from India's past: the caste system.

Although discouraged by the government, this system of social stratification still dominates many rural communities. The caste system assigns class to individuals and offers no escape from this imposed category. For those subjugated to the lowest level of "untouchables," life is a constant flood of prejudice, discrimination, and abuse.

India remains a country of diversity and beauty. With the architecture of the Taj Mahal, the dances and music of Bollywood, the colorful saris and festival of colors, and the spicy curries, India is rich in culture and full of life.

Travel Information

Volunteers will purchase their own plane tickets to and from the city of Ranchi, India. Maranatha representatives will meet you in Ranchi, and volunteers will travel together by bus to the hotel. If you arrive or depart outside the posted time frames, you may have long wait times at the airport or may be responsible for paying the additional transportation for your individual airport transfer.

Please complete the online registration and wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project.

Most itineraries will route you through New Delhi on your way to Ranchi, which may require an overnight layover.



Facts and Figures

Capital: New Delhi

Population: 1.2 billion

Language: Hindi 41%, Bengali 8.1%, Telugu 7.2%, and various other local languages and dialects.

Climate: Humid and monsoon in southern India, temperate in the north.

Religion: Hindu 81%, Muslim 13%, Christian 2%, Sikh 2%

Currency: Indian Rupee

If your travel requires an overnight layover we are recommending volunteers to stay at the Lemon Tree Premier Aerocity Hotel near the Delhi airport. Please make those arrangements on your own and notify Maranatha of your confirmed hotel booking when you submit your itinerary and we will have someone meet you in Delhi to assist you with your transportation to the hotel. For a discounted rate, connect directly with Mr. Saurabh Kaul from the Lemon Tree Hotel (sales6.ttdl@lemontreehotels.com) and mention "Maranatha."

Sometimes finding the domestic Indian flights can be difficult using online search tools, so speaking with a travel agent can help you look at all flight options. It might be more cost effective. Please note that you will most likely need to collect your bags in Delhi and then recheck them the next day for your flight to Ranchi.

Flights

Arrival | Please plan to arrive in Ranchi (airport code IXR) before 1:00 pm on Thursday, February 28.

Departure (Project Only) | Please plan to depart from Ranchi (airport code IXR) in the morning or afternoon of Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Departure (Optional Excursion) |

If you are planning on joining the optional excursion, please book the following flights:

1. Book Vistara UK flight number 983 from Ranchi (IXR) to Delhi (DEL) departing at 8:55 a.m. and arriving at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 10, 2019.
2. Book your departure home from Delhi (airport code DEL) in the evening of Monday, March 11, after 10 p.m. or early in the morning of Tuesday, March 12, before 5 a.m.

Arriving Early or Staying Late?

India has some beautiful travel destinations. Some of you may choose to arrive earlier than February 28 or stay beyond March 10 to explore the country on your own. The Maranatha dates are firm and any extra travel must coincide with the arrival and departure windows above. Please make your own hotel and transportation plans for any days outside of the Maranatha project dates. If you have any questions, feel free to call Maranatha at (916) 774-7700.

Travel Resources

CI Azumano Travel: 800-454-4099 or by email with Erle Dpenha or Azumano Team at

corporatetravel@ciazumano.com

Butler Travel: 503-879-5005 or by email with Nathanael at nathan@butlertravel.com or with Ellen at with

ellen@butlertravel.com.

Kayak: www.kayak.com

When contacting the Azumano or Butler travel agencies, make sure you mention Maranatha to receive a discounted service charge.

Entry Requirements

Below are the requirements for U.S. and Canadian travelers. Citizens of other countries should consult the Indian embassy or consulate in your home country for entrance requirements.

Passport | All passports must be valid for at least six months from the dates of intended travel (September 12, 2019). If you do not have a passport, U.S. citizens can apply at any U.S. post office or online at <http://travel.state.gov>. Canadian citizens can apply online at www.passport.gc.ca. It can take up to two months to complete the entire process, so plan accordingly to give yourself enough time to receive your passport.

Tourist Visa | In addition to a passport, you must have a valid tourist visa for the country of India before traveling. A document with complete visa requirements and tips for filling everything out will be sent with your confirmation. There is an online e-Tourist Visa for India, and for volunteers on their first trip to India, we recommend using that option since it is cheaper and faster than applying for a multiple entry or five to ten-year visa.

You must apply for the e-Tourist Visa online at least four days before your trip and within 120 days of your arrival in India. It is only good for 120 days from date of issue, so Maranatha recommends that you wait to process this paperwork until at least three and a half months before your scheduled departure (November 14, 2018). If you are delayed in your travel, you don't want your visa to expire before you arrive in India. In order to enter India, you must present the printed confirmation page at customs when you arrive in India. If you go to the airport without this paperwork, you will not be permitted to board your flight to India.

Traveling With Minors

If you are traveling with a legal minor (under the age of 18 on the date you depart), both parents or legal guardians must travel with the minor. Otherwise, you must have two parental consent forms notarized. This provides government entities with evidence that both guardians have consented to their child leaving the country with the other guardian and Maranatha. One original must be mailed to Maranatha, and the other original must stay with you while you travel. If a parent is divorced, the missing parent still needs to sign the form unless the parent traveling with the minor has sole legal custody. In that case, a copy of the divorce paperwork, indicating sole custody, must also be included. If a parent has died, a copy of the death certificate must be included.

You can download a PDF of the Parental Consent Form at <http://www.maranatha.org/resources>. This form will ask for two people as appointees of the minor. The first appointee will be the guardian traveling with the child. The other will be Loretta Spivey, Maranatha's project coordinator for this India Project.

Staying Healthy

Maranatha requires that every volunteer have a current tetanus vaccine (within the last 10 years). The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommends vaccines for hepatitis A, typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, and an anti-malarial medication other than chloroquine.

Some of these you may already have and some you may deem unnecessary for this trip. You should schedule a consultation with a travel clinic doctor to talk about the medical risks in India and the ways to minimize them.

How to Register

To register, please complete the online registration at maranatha.org and pay the full participation fee or an initial deposit of at least half the total participation fee. You can make this payment by credit card online or over the phone or with a check made out to Maranatha Volunteers International and sent to the address below. If for any reason you need to cancel your participation, Maranatha will do their best to refund your deposit up until one month before travel. After that point, \$150 is non-refundable and the remainder will depend on the reservations and the project arrangements already made.

Contact Information

Phone: (916) 774-7700

Fax: (916) 774-7701

Email: volunteer@maranatha.org

Website: www.maranatha.org

Mailing Address:

Maranatha Volunteers International
990 Reserve Drive, Suite 100
Roseville, CA 95678

Canadian Payments Only:

Maranatha Volunteers International
Association
c/o V06494C
PO Box 6494, Station Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 6R3

Social Media

Share your mission trip with family and friends! And be sure to tag us on social media!



@maranathavolunteersinternational



@gomaranatha



@maranatha

Use our hashtag,
#maranathavolunteersinternational
when posting, so we can feature
your trip!

THE MARANATHA STORE

BUY MARANATHA MERCHANDISE!

Share the spirit of service with Maranatha-themed apparel and accessories.*

2018 MARANATHA T-SHIRT \$10



This blend of polyester and cotton is an ultra-soft, ultra-comfy unisex T-shirt that feels like you've owned it for years. Represent Maranatha anywhere you go!

HARD HAT \$13



This MSA V-Gard hard hat, with Staz-On suspension, ensures excellent shock absorption on the job site.

MARANATHA.ORG

*All confirmed volunteers on an International Maranatha Open Team receive a Maranatha t-shirt as part of their participation fee.



**TO ORDER, VISIT MARANATHA.ORG/STORE
OR CALL (916) 774-7700**

All prices are excluding sales tax and shipping.

CAP \$12



All cotton and easy to pack, this cap is sure to keep the sun off your face on a mission project and at home. Available in Khaki and Navy.

WATER BOTTLE \$15



The autospout water bottle by Contigo features a one-touch-button spout for convenient one-handed drinking. It also has a spout shield to protect the spout from debris and dirt when not in use—perfect for the project site.

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