

Unreached Peoples: The Ladakhi People of the Himalayas

by Paul Hattaway

The people of Ladakh are spiritually isolated and in need of the life-giving message of Christ.

Scripture: Matthew 9:37

Topics: "Missions Work", "Unreached Peoples"

Description

This sermon focuses on the unique and challenging spiritual landscape of Ladakh, a high and dry region in the Himalayas with a predominantly Buddhist population. Despite the physical beauty of the land, the spiritual condition of the people is described as lifeless and unwelcoming, with a very small percentage knowing Christ. The cultural practices, such as dancing and daily offerings to Buddhist altars, are deeply ingrained in the society. The region is sparsely populated and home to three unreached people groups, highlighting the need for spiritual revival and the spread of the Gospel in this remote area.

Transcript

Ladakh is one of the highest and driest places in the world where people live. It is in the north of India and it is a land like no other. It is surrounded by the world's greatest mountain range, the Himalayas.

The mountains keep the rain out, making Ladakh a desert. Leh is the capital of the region. It was once a major city along the Asian Silk Route.

For many months of the year it is the only connection to the outside world. Ladakh is very high up, between 9 and 25 thousand feet. In the winter it is covered in snow and almost completely cut off from the outside world.

But in summer it is a desert. In the same way that the land is dried up, the spiritual condition of the people is also lifeless. Less than 0.08% of the population know Christ.

Even though life-giving water has been poured out here many times, people's hearts were not open to receive it. The ground in their hearts remains lifeless and dry. Ladakh is very unwelcome.

There are only two people per square kilometer in this mountainous region. That makes it one of the least populated places in the world. Three unreached people groups live here, the Ladakhis, the Drogpas and the Kampa nomads.

Dancing to the beat of the hobo and drum is an important part of Ladakh culture. Especially at every ceremony and festival, these dancers show honor to the Buddhist trinity. The majority of the Ladakhis are Buddhist.

There is a Buddhist altar in every house for daily offerings and worship. According to tradition, families give their youngest son or daughter to a Buddhist monastery to become a monk or a nun.

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/TximODo4Wgo.mp4>

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