

# HOW TO PRAY FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA



ADVANCING  
NATIVE  
MISSIONS

## **Thank you for praying for Southeast Asia!**

As you read through this guide, you'll learn about what makes this region unique and a small unreached people group that's close to God's heart.



Southeast Asia is a region of Asia situated east of the Indian subcontinent, south of China, and northwest of Australia. 11 mainland and island countries make up this region: Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. As part of the warm and humid tropics, countries here experience two seasons a year: wet and dry.

The culture is more diverse than the weather. 697 million people live here, belonging to hundreds of different ethnic groups and speaking over 1,500 languages. People practice Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, animism, or tribal religions, although some hold no religious beliefs.

Unfortunately, many people in this region believe that religion is part of their family, culture, and ethnicity, as well as a chosen belief. Since religion is so deeply entwined with community identity, missionaries can have difficulty evangelizing.



Thankfully, native missionaries from Southeast Asia understand this cultural mindset. We're supporting them and their evangelism efforts. With this prayer guide, you are too!







**One of the best parts of supporting native missionaries** is that they have better access to unreached people groups (UPGs). While UPGs often live in remote locations, supporting believers who are already in the same country still saves money on travel costs and guarantees better cultural understanding.



An unreached people group is a people group where 2% or less of the population identify as believing evangelical Christians. When dealing with scattered or remote tribes, we consider a group unreached even if more than 2% believe.

One of these groups is the Jarai tribe of northeastern Cambodia. 3.8% or 1,000 of the 26,000 Jarai people are believers. They are very remote and traditional, living in the mountains and raising their own food. Most communities lack clean water and basic resources such as sanitation. They are cut off from public education, modern healthcare, roads, and most forms of communication.

Jarai people practice spirit worship, which is rampant with fear and superstition, hindering their openness to Christianity. Many believe that Christianity is a foreign religion that they cannot trust.

Native missionaries must travel on difficult roads for 11 hours to reach Jarai communities, making consistent outreach and follow-up challenging.





One missionary willing to make the trek is Kung Phalla, or Petros, from Hug Cambodia Ministry. Despite fleeing to Thailand as a child during the Cambodian Genocide, he accepted Christ as his Savior when he was 14 and eventually graduated from Bible school.

While some Bible school graduates would prefer working in the ease of cities, he started a ministry to focus on remote villages that had little to no resources like electricity. The work has been hard and long, but he now has 50 trained missionaries working with him.

Reaching the Jarai, as well as other remote tribes, is one of their top priorities. They are planting churches and implementing programs that address both spiritual and physical needs.

For example, in 2024 Hug Cambodia Ministry installed 53 water wells in 53 poor villages and built 11 community toilets in 11 tribal villages. Petros also saw his dream of building a ministry training center become a reality – with an added bonus of a missionary lodging home and outdoor kitchen.

These projects were only possible because God used faithful ANM supporters like you. Thank you for helping Petros reach the Jarai and other unreached tribes!







## 5 WAYS TO PRAY FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. Pray for divine protection and relief assistance from natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, which frequently hit certain parts of the region.
2. Pray for the easing up wof repressive government policies, rules, and regulations in countries that are hostile to Christianity, as well as for religious freedom and perseverance for believers enduring persecution.
3. Pray that more missionaries will be burdened and equipped to bring the Gospel to the many unreached people groups.
4. Pray that children of families living below the national poverty line in their countries will be provided with access to free and quality education and opportunities for a better future for themselves and their families.
5. Pray for political and economic stability in places where turmoil, unrest, and volatility are present.



## 5 COUNTRIES TO PRAY FOR

1. **Cambodia** – pray for the construction of community toilets and water wells, as these practical facilities serve to open doors for Gospel evangelization.
2. **Thailand** – pray for orphaned, abandoned, and poor children in children’s homes run by native missionaries, that they will experience God’s love and care.
3. **Indonesia** – pray for revival and spiritual harvest in this predominantly Muslim country, as well as for God’s protection of new Muslim-background believers.
4. **Myanmar** – pray for the entire country as they are still under military rule and the poverty rate has doubled; pray for spiritual growth among the new believers.
5. **Vietnam** – pray for believers to live as light and salt, having the boldness to share the Gospel in their communities and perseverance to withstand persecution, and for unbelievers to see Christ in them.



**ANM is a global missions organization delivering the Gospel to those who still need to hear the Good News of Jesus in 100+ countries.**

We're a little different from the traditional missions organizations you may be familiar with. Instead of sending missionaries to other countries where they have to learn a new language, adapt to new ways of living, and make substantial cultural adjustments, we support missionaries sharing the Gospel in their own countries.

These native missionaries are impacting the kingdom tremendously – ***you can help.***

**Learn more at [advancingnativemissions.com](http://advancingnativemissions.com)**

**Thank you for praying!**

