

Muslim Kahar

Introduction/History

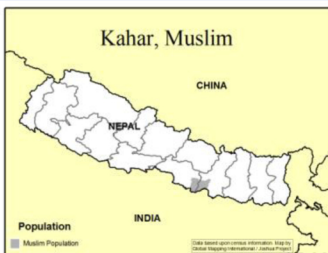
The Kahar or Kahal people have several stories about the deriving of their name. It is said, by some anthropologists, that the name comes from the combination of the words *kandh*, meaning "shoulder" and *ahar*, meaning "food." Their traditional work has been as palanquin (a seat carried between poles on the shoulder) or water carriers. They are over 7 million strong in India and in some areas known as a Schedule caste.

What is their life like?

Today many of the Kahar can be found to have many occupations. Some are small businessman, shop keepers or food vendors. In the rural areas they can be found as cultivators, labourers or rickshaw-pullers. The majority of Kahar clans are Hindu but there are over 150,000 Muslim Kahar in Nepal and India. Their primary language in Nepal is Maithili and Bhojpuri. Prasad, Singh and Verma are common surnames.

Ministry Need

In general that Kahar are favourable to having their children attend school and this may be an avenue of ministry and assistance to the community. Pray that some from the Kahar would hear and come to know the name of Jesus. There are no known workers among this Muslim group in Nepal.



Population:

Nepal : 500

Total 198,000

Language: Nepali,

Maithili, Bhojpuri & Urdu

Believers: 0