

Prayer Guide: 15 Days of Prayer for India September 18 – October 2, 2020

Dear Mennonite Brethren Churches of India, ICOMB member conferences, and emerging ICOMB conferences:

As a global ICOMB family we want to join with the India MB churches in this challenging time and recognize our need for discernment. As we look toward the future, may we be reminded of who God is and allow our souls to trust him deeply. May the Lord open our eyes to see what he has done and is doing, and may our souls be thankful. May we submit all our needs and all decisions to him and let the Holy Spirit lead and heal us.

This guide can be used by regional leaders, local churches, and individuals, in India, and around the globe.

Day	Worship	Give Thanks	Petition
Day 1 9/18	<p>God Is Infinite – He is Self-Existing, Without Origin</p> <p>"And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." - <u>Colossians 1:17</u></p> <p>"Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure" – <u>Psalms 147:5</u></p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for the Mennonite Brethren missionaries, in so many parts of the globe. Thank you for the many sending churches, supporting missionaries, and investing in unreached people.</p>	<p>Holy Spirit, fill the leaders in our Global Mennonite Brethren Family and let the desire grow to wholeheartedly worship and follow God.</p> <p>Lord, we pray for you to call more workers for the harvest to India, both from India and from the Global Family.</p>

<p>Day 2 9/19</p>	<p>God is Faithful – He is Infinitely, Unchangingly True</p> <p>"Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands." - <u>Deuteronomy 7:9</u></p> <p>"[I]f we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself." <u>2 Timothy 2:13</u></p>	<p>Thank you, God, for your faithfulness to the Mennonite Brethren Church in India and for the response to the Gospel, the witness of your servants, and the growth in India for over 100 years.</p>	<p>God, we pray for all leaders in our Global Family. Give them an attitude of humility to let the Holy Spirit show them where you want to bring repentance, change and healing. Help all to respond to this call: "... <i>if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land</i>" (1 Chronicles 7:14).</p> <p>God, we pray for leaders in India to model to believers and non-believers how to live out of your grace.</p>
<p>Day 3 9/20</p>	<p>God is Omnipotent – He is All Powerful</p> <p>"By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth." – <u>Psalms 33:6</u></p>	<p>Lord, we praise you for all the medical work that has been done in India and around the globe over many decades.</p>	<p>Lord, help all leaders in our Global Family to know you are Creator and all powerful. You own the globe, you own the church, and everything is yours. Help all leaders see that you have called them to be faithful stewards for your kingdom.</p> <p>Lord, help those in the MB India family and beyond who need medical care.</p>
<p>Day 4 9/21</p>	<p>God Is Self-Sufficient – He Has No Needs</p> <p>"For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself." – <u>John 5:26</u></p>	<p>Thank you, God, for education work in India, blessing thousands over many years. Thank you for MB schools, and for the work of the Mennonite Brethren Junior College.</p>	<p>God, grant all leaders in our global family a deep concern for the church and for all disciples of Christ. Help them live out the life of Christ and be used by the Holy Spirit to awaken others.</p> <p>God, provide the necessary funds, trained staff, and freedom to offer holistic education. Give leaders wisdom for leading during a pandemic.</p>

Day 5 9/22	<p>God Is Omniscient – He Is All-Knowing</p> <p>“Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please” - <u>Isaiah 46:9-10</u></p>	<p>We praise the Lord for the work of Mennonite Brethren Centenary Bible College (the theological seminary) and for over 100 years of training leaders and pastors for mission and church ministry.</p>	<p>Lord, lead all leaders in our Global Family to rest in your presence. Lead them to still waters and restore their souls, knowing that you have everything they need. Open their ears to hear your voice in all decisions.</p> <p>Lord, provide the necessary funds and teachers to train leaders and pastors with an attitude of humility and a shepherd's heart.</p>
Day 6 9/23	<p>God Is Omnipresent – He Is Always Everywhere</p> <p>“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to <u>heaven</u>, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me.” <u>Psalms 139:7-10</u></p>	<p>Thank you, God, for the approximately 1000 local churches in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and other states in India.</p>	<p>God, open the eyes of all leaders in our Global Family to see how you are present everywhere. Help them see you leading, encouraging, and holding them accountable.</p> <p>God, help the local churches worship and grow in this time of pandemic. We ask you to provide shepherds for your flock where they are missing.</p> <p>God, we pray for reconciliation in the churches, for resolution for legal battles. Free your church to step forward in your will.</p>
Day 7 9/24	<p>God Is Wise – He Is Full of Perfect, Unchanging Wisdom</p> <p>“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!” – <u>Romans 11:33</u></p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for the sacrificial love of the churches preaching the Gospel in their location and to all around them. Thank you for all the men and women that have seen and accepted God's path for their life.</p>	<p>Lord, help all leaders and pastors in the MB churches of India to discern the paths you are leading them on during this challenging time.</p> <p>Lord, we pray for your guiding hand on an urgently needed leadership transition.</p> <p>Lord, draw this family close together, the stronger churches supporting the smaller, so all can follow your path.</p>

<p>Day 8 9/25</p>	<p>God Is Immutable – He Never Changes</p> <p>"I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed." <u>Malachi 3:6</u></p>	<p>Praise God for the many local churches that have become sending churches, supporting mission efforts to other regions and ethnic groups.</p>	<p>God, may all leaders and pastors in the MB churches of India feel your deep love for your children. Your love for the church in India is steadfast. Show your heart to see your church in India heal and thrive. Give all the courage to confront those who are destructive to your church.</p> <p>God, we pray for funds, security, and mobility for the efforts to reach out in other regions.</p>
<p>Day 9 9/26</p>	<p>God Is Good – He Is Infinitely, Unchangingly Kind and Full of Good Will</p> <p>"O, taste and see that the Lord is good" – <u>Psalms 34:8</u></p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for the support from the Global MB Family, especially North America, supporting kingdom work in India for many years.</p>	<p>Lord, help the leaders in the MB churches of India seek unity and dialogue. Help them to agree in basic understanding of God's plan for the churches in a region.</p> <p>Lord, provide the means to solve deeper conflicts between leaders in the conference. Lord, we pray for a withdrawal of all personal court cases.</p>
<p>Day 10 9/27</p>	<p>God Is Just – He Is Infinitely, Unchangeably Right and Perfect in All He Does</p> <p>"The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He." – Duet 32:4</p>	<p>God, we thank you for the many properties and facilities that have been used to serve you.</p>	<p>Father God, show the leaders and pastors of MBCL how perfect and just your way is. We know that through Christ, your children are clothed with justice. We pray for leaders of local churches and regions to take the initiative to forgive and seek reconciliation, without diminishing the wrongs of the past.</p> <p>God grant us the courage and stewardship necessary to desist in compromising the properties in India and to withdraw the court cases that have been filed.</p>

<p>Day 11 9/28</p>	<p>God Is Merciful – He is Infinitely, Unchangeably Compassionate and Kind</p> <p>"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy." - <u>Romans 9:15-16</u></p>	<p>Lord, we thank you for the pastors and other church leaders – men and women, young and old – who responded to the call of God into service. Thank you for all the past saints and for all those serving today, even in discouraging situations.</p>	<p>Lord, may the leaders and pastors of the MBCI experience your deep compassion and kindness. We pray for healing from the hurts done by destructive leaders.</p> <p>Lord, grant the leaders of all our churches and ministries, the health, courage, and wisdom to lead us faithfully.</p>
<p>Day 12 9/29</p>	<p>God Is Gracious – God Is Infinitely Inclined to Spare the Guilty</p> <p>"The LORD is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness." – <u>Psaln 145:8</u></p>	<p>Thank you God for the work done in development: among women and men, youth and elders, by lay leaders and church leaders, in outreach services and construction projects, in disaster relief, and in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and comforting the sorrowful.</p> <p>Thank you, God, for government freedoms granted for mission work.</p>	<p>God, help all who belong to an MB Church in India to see you are not eager to punish, but quick to forgive, to heal, and to restore. Help all to know that destructive shepherds should not be given the freedom to go on hurting the sheep and damaging the flock. Lord Jesus, we know you are merciful with the sinner, but strong and challenging toward destructive shepherds.</p> <p>God, we pray for the Indian government, for wisdom to deal with the pandemic and international challenges. We pray for a fear of God and that you would guard the freedom for Christians to do mission work.</p>

<p>Day 13 9/30</p>	<p>God Is Loving – God Infinitely, Unchangingly Loves Us</p> <p>“Beloved, let us <u>love one another</u>, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because <u>God is love.</u>” - 1 <u>John 4:7-8</u></p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for the families and broken relationships that you have restored through the Gospel as it was preached and lived out through the ministries of the MB churches in India.</p>	<p>Lord, help all who belong to the MBICI to see how you love your children and long to see them love each other. Give all a deep desire to express love and restore relationships, even if it is painful. Grant them the wisdom to realize when it is necessary to let people go.</p> <p>Lord, we pray for healing in family relationships (close and extended), neighborhoods, and villages. We pray for wisdom to develop relationships, even with those who reject the gospel and believers.</p>
<p>Day 14 10/1</p>	<p>God Is Holy – He is Infinitely, Unchangingly Perfect</p> <p>“Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty” – <u>Revelation 4:8</u></p>	<p>Thank you, God, for the spread of the Gospel throughout India.</p>	<p>God, may all who belong to the MBICI see your great holiness. May they see themselves as clothed with the holiness of Jesus. Call us all to expose ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit so that our lives will express more of the holiness that Christ has given us.</p> <p>God, enable the church in India to be a faithful witness amid difficulty and opposition.</p>
<p>Day 15 10/2</p>	<p>God Is Glorious – He is Infinitely Beautiful and Great</p> <p>“His radiance is like the sunlight; He has rays flashing from His hand, and there is the hiding of His power.” - <u>Habakkuk 3:4</u></p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for the supporting fellowship among brothers and sisters experienced in the Global Family and in India.</p>	<p>Lord we ask you to help all who belong to the MBICI and the Global Family to see your glory. We long to see it together with brothers and sisters in the local church, in the region, in the nation, in our globe. Amen.</p>