

# Asuri



A significant number of Asur have responded to the Gospel and worship Jesus in three different denominations

Population: 10,000

Literacy: Very low

Scripture Status: No translation in progress

The hilly part of Jharkhand, covered with thick forests and rich in minerals is home to different tribal groups, and the Asur is one of them. Thanks to a good road network laid for

mining purposes, these tribes have easy access to the outside world. However, they do not mingle freely with others, making it difficult for an outsider to enter their area and build friendships. Also, any outsider travelling in the region is viewed with suspicion as the area is also known for its Naxalite or militant activities. Most of the hard working Asur earn their livelihood as daily labourers in mines or in other places.

Most Asur children do not attend school, as school facilities are not easily available and they need to walk long distances to go to school. This keeps the literacy rates among the Asur very low, but their attitudes to education is very positive. They are owners of a vital and living language, though it is not a well developed one. Traditionally, they followed an animistic faith. A significant number of Asur – about 4000 of them – have responded to the Gospel and worship

Jesus in three different denominations.

In general, the living conditions of the Asur are quite primitive but there is a sharp contrast in the lifestyles and social levels of the Christians among them, who have better access to medical facilities, are better educated and have better knowledge of the outside world. There is a need for developmental activities in the areas of educational, social and medical facilities.



The Asur speak a distinct language – called Asuri – but no portions of Scripture are available in it. The Word of God in their language will be an asset in building the foundations of the Asur Church. They will then understand the love of God and be able to help the remaining Asur to understand the Gospel clearly .

Pray for:

1. God's Word in Asuri to help bring the Church back to true faith. Lack of God's Word in Asuri has hindered their understanding of how to live as a Christian .They have absorbed many of their ancestral worship forms into the Church.

2. God's peace to reign in the area. There are often conflicts and tensions due to Naxalite and other militant groups.

3. The Asur Church to start being a true light for the region, reaching out to meet the needs of other tribes.

