# South Asia — January 2027

**What to Expect · January 14–24, 2027**

## Trip at a glance

This team travels to South Asia to encourage pastors and believers, bless widows and children, dedicate new water wells and visit unreached villages alongside GPPD's long-time national partners. Registered team members receive a detailed team-only guide.

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| **Dates** | January 14–24, 2027 |
| **Team leader** | Jonathan Grooms |
| **Where we serve** | Rural communities in South Asia |
| **National partners** | A ministry family leading a network of 650+ pastors and 1,200+ village churches |
| **Ministry focus** | Pastor and widow gatherings, children's homes, well dedications, livestock gifts, unreached village visits |
| **Cost** | $2,300 + airfare |

**Covered:** lodging, all in-country meals and transportation, ministry costs and travel insurance. **Not covered:** visa fee, vaccines and prescriptions, and personal shopping.

**Airfare:** GPPD books the team's flights and adds the airfare to your total trip cost.

### Our approach

We come to serve — sharing our stories, playing with children, blessing pastors and widows — and just as much to listen, learn and follow the lead of national believers who carry this work every day.

## Before you go

**Passport.** Valid through at least **July 24, 2027**, with at least two blank pages.

**E-visa.** U.S. citizens need a tourist e-visa, applied for online in mid- to late December (no more than 30 and no fewer than 4 days before arrival). Your leader will send a step-by-step guide to the official government site — use only that site.

**Health.** See a travel clinic by early December. Be current on routine vaccines, ask about Hepatitis A and Typhoid, and ask about malaria prevention.

**Go Method.** Application and deposit, passport copy, medical release, e-visa approval and trip balance.

**Insurance.** GPPD purchases travel medical insurance for every participant.

## Packing

You'll change hotels often, so pack light. Bring a universal plug adapter.

- **Must have:** passport and printed e-visa, copies packed separately, Bible and journal, toiletries, **toilet paper** (most toilets won't have any), hand sanitizer, snacks, prescriptions, slip-on shoes
- **Good ideas:** medicine kit, flip-flops, Ziploc bags, repellent, sunscreen, family photos to share, a small gift for hosts, money belt
- **Carry-on:** pack it to last two days on its own — some legs travel light while big bags go ahead.

### Dress code

| Setting | Men | Women |
|---|---|---|
| **Church & pastor meetings** | Khakis, collared shirt; tie if preaching | Mid-calf dress or long tunic over leggings; nothing sleeveless |
| **Ministry days** | Collared shirt or plain T-shirt; jeans or pants | Mid-calf dress or skirt, or pants with a long top |
| **Travel** | Comfortable pants; no shorts | Comfortable, modest clothes |

You'll remove your shoes often when entering homes and churches.

## Travel, lodging & food

Expect more than 24 hours of travel each way, long drives in-country and a different hotel most nights. Same-gender team members share rooms. All meals are provided — often spicy, with a non-spicy option always available. **Drink only sealed bottled water**, avoid street food and raw salads, and peel your own fruit.

## A typical day

Days are long and full: breakfast around 8:30, hours on the road between villages, ministry stops through the afternoon, and evening believers' or widows' meetings that can run until 9 PM.

You might encourage pastors with a short testimony, help give blankets and food to widows, play with children at GPPD-supported homes, celebrate new water wells, help give chickens, goats or water buffalo to families, and visit communities where few have heard the hope we carry.

## Culture & discretion

- Greet respectfully with palms together, or a handshake if offered; men let women offer a hand first.
- Use your right hand to eat, give and receive.
- Avoid public displays of affection, even between spouses.
- Follow our partners' lead on gifts, money and promises.
- **To protect our partners,** never post their names, faces or locations online.

## Health & safety

Stomach illness and travel fatigue are the most common problems. Drink bottled water constantly, sanitize before meals, bring a small medicine kit and stay with the team and our partners at all times.

## Preparing your heart

Pray daily for the team, our partners and the communities we'll visit. Recruit prayer partners, prepare a two-minute testimony, and come ready to learn as much as to encourage.

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**Questions?** Contact Matt Riggins at mriggins@gpartners.org.

*Visa, entry and health requirements can change. Leaders confirm current guidance before departure.*