

## Masala Chai

In Urdu, a language spoken primarily by Muslims in South Asia, “chai” means “tea,” and “masala” means “spices.” Indians often drink chai for breakfast, during the afternoon, around 5:00 p.m., and after dinner before bed. There is no wrong time to make chai.

2 cups water	1-2 cloves crushed
2 cups milk	1 1/2 T. loose black tea (or 3 black tea bags). If you go to an Indian specialty store, buy Brooke Bond or Tata or Taj Mahal black tea.
4-6 small green cardamom pods (OPTIONAL: found at Indian stores or Whole Foods)	2 T. sugar (or to taste)
1/4 inch slice of peeled fresh ginger, crushed	

**Directions:** Over medium heat, combine water, milk, crushed cardamom, ginger, and cloves together. Don't boil over. When you see the milk/water mixture begin to boil, lower heat and stir in the loose black tea or tea bags. Continue cooking on medium low heat for 2-3 minutes. (Serves 4.)

## What else can we do?

Knowing that these women have less access to the Gospel than anyone else in the world, would you devote yourself to specific times of prayer for them? Maybe you would like to continue meeting with a small group every month, commit yourself to praying every day, or set aside a specific day of the week to pray for South Asian Muslim women.

Keep in mind that South Asian Muslim women could be living in your neighborhood—suffering from loneliness or discontentment. Consider offering a gesture of friendship. Smile and introduce yourself or invite them over for chai (see recipe included.)

## South Asian Peoples

The greatest concentration of lostness on Earth

Bangladesh ~ Bhutan ~ India ~ Maldives  
Nepal ~ Pakistan ~ Sri Lanka  
and throughout the world

[www.go2SouthAsia.org](http://www.go2SouthAsia.org)  
[www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org)

# Together, Adorned for Prayer

Women Interceding for  
South Asian Muslim Women

## Assalam Alaikum!

*Peace be with you!* This is the typical greeting among Muslims in South Asia. Welcome to a prayer time devoted to lifting up Muslim women! Join us in praying that they will know true peace and be able to offer the peace of Christ to one another.

## Who are South Asian Muslim women?

Mothers. Daughters. Grandmothers. Sisters. Students. Housewives. Teachers. Doctors. Businesswomen. They are women: hospitable, servant-hearted, relational, fashion-conscious. People like you and me.

The countries of Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka are home to 200 million Muslim women. Of these devoutly religious women, some adhere strictly to the tenets of Islam while others follow a more mystical form.

One reality divides us: They have little or no access to the truth of God's love. But we know that God loves Muslim women.

## Why should we pray for South Asian Muslim women?

One of the most unreached groups in the world, many South Asian Muslim women cannot read or write and spend most of their day within their homes.

Most Muslims believe Isa (Jesus) to be a powerful prophet who will come again at the end of the world. They need to hear that Isa Al Masih, the Messiah and Son of God, has the authority to forgive sins and that eternal life comes through Him alone and not through works.

Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him that “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32). Surely this is true for the women who believe, obey, and abide in His Word.

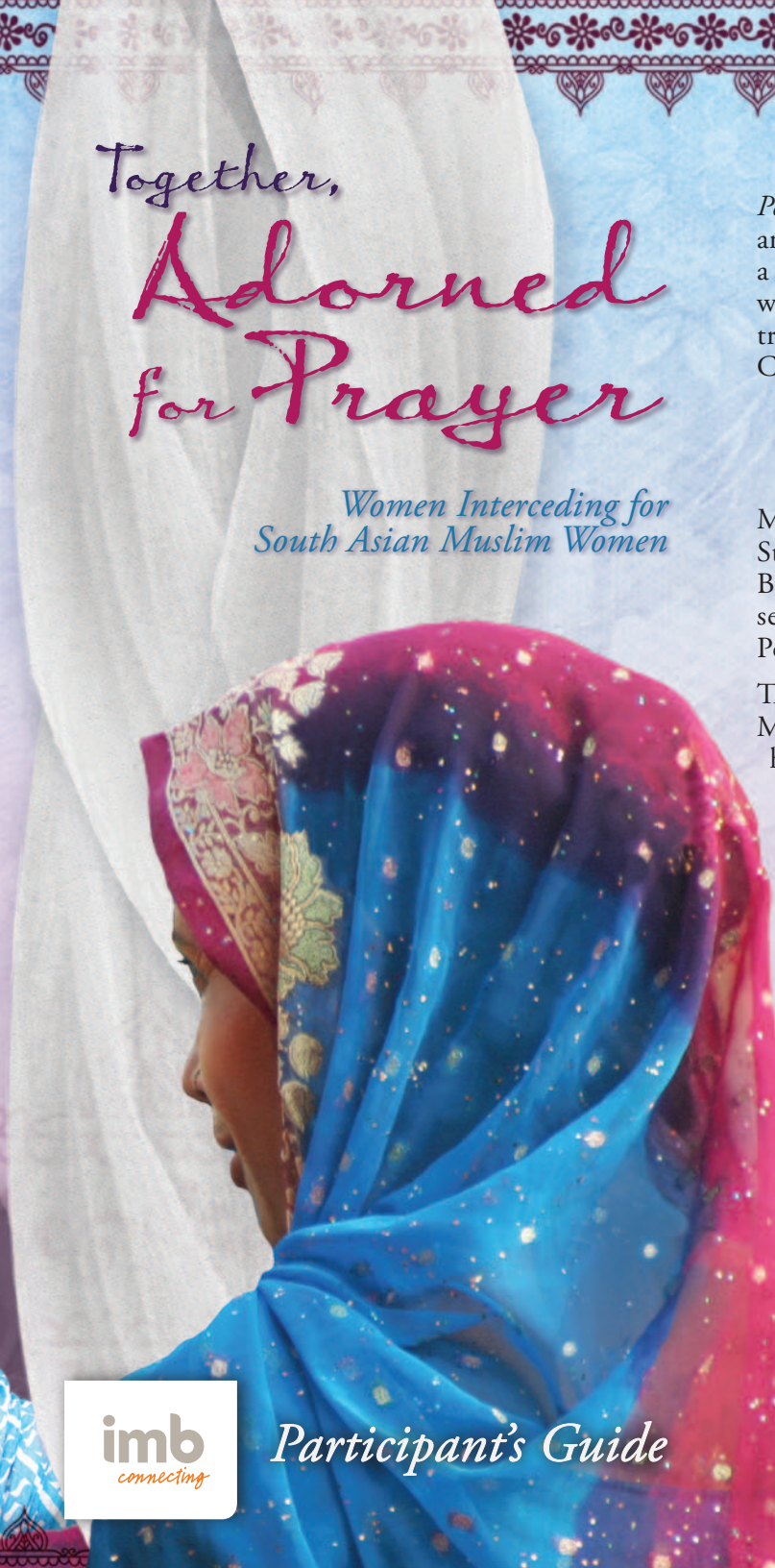
## Wearing the Dupatta

Muslim women cover their heads to pray. The fabrics used to make the dupatta, or scarf, come in a beautiful variety of colors and styles. The dupatta is a symbol of both modesty and respect. A dupatta is traditionally worn across the shoulders or covering the head.

To wear your dupatta for prayer, gather it in both hands. Leave more material in the right hand. Using your left hand, cover your hair with the dupatta—stopping just at your face. Then, use your right hand to drape the extra material over your left shoulder. One end will be hanging in the back, and the other end will be hanging in the front—both on your left side.



Participant's Guide



## Removing the Veil

Pray for the glory of God to cover the earth and for the hearts of South Asian Muslim women to be softened. Pray for their eyes to be opened to the light of God's love. Pray that they would hear the Gospel so that they might believe and call on Him. Pray that they would sing for joy and be glad in Him. As you pray, consider these verses:

Habakkuk 2:14 \* Romans 10:14-15  
Psalm 47:1-2

*Almighty God, we rejoice in Your promise that one day the knowledge of Your glory will cover the earth. We ask that South Asian Muslim women would call upon Your name, that the veils over their hearts would be lifted, and that they would see clearly their need for You and Your salvation. God, we ask that Jesus would be lifted high. We desire to see Muslim women of South Asia, along with people from every nation, tribe, people and language, clapping for joy and proclaiming Your greatness...*

## Supporting Servants

Pray for the workers who are looking for an open door to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus (or Isa Al Masih to the Muslim community). Pray that they will continue steadfastly in prayer, ignoring the temporal things of this world, and focusing on what is eternal. Pray that they would not lose heart and set an example in how they live their lives. As you pray, consider these verses:

Colossians 4:2-3 \* Ephesians 5:15-16  
2 Corinthians 4:16-18

*Heavenly Father, may Your light shine down on those You have called to work among Muslim women of South Asia. We ask, according to Your power and in the name of Your Son, that doors will be opened in Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and throughout the world for Your glory. Wherever You lead, may Your children be obedient. May they be faithful witnesses of the Word entrusted to them to proclaim...*

## Revealing Truth

There are countless stories of a man dressed in white appearing to Muslims in dreams and beckoning them to follow the Truth. We know this man to be Jesus, or Isa Al Masih. Pray that God will reveal Himself to Muslim women. Pray that these women will long for the Truth. As you pray, consider these verses:

John 4:10 \* Daniel 2:28  
Acts 10:1-3, 30-33

*Redeemer and Messiah, we take delight in the ways You have chosen to reveal Yourself. We pray that You would reveal Yourself through dreams and visions to the Muslim women in South Asia. We ask that You would provide a way for these women to read and understand Your Word, provide for them a witness with whom they can share these dreams and that understanding of You would come to them...*

## Suffering Believers

Pray for the Muslim women of South Asia who have already chosen to follow Jesus, or Isa Al Masih. (Often they are called Muslim Background Believers, or MBBs.) Many are facing isolation from their community and family because of their decision to be a follower of Isa Al Masih. Ask the Holy Spirit to comfort them in their sufferings, to protect their hearts and minds from feeling isolated, to remind them that they have a firm foundation in Jesus Christ. As you pray, consider these verses:

1 Peter 4:12-13 \* Philippians 1:27, 29  
Colossians 3:1-17

*Jesus, we pray for our sisters who have become bold followers of You. May they know Your presence. May they run to You in times of stress and uneasiness. May they find in You the reassurance and comfort needed to endure moments of distress. We know the storms of life will always continue for those who believe, but Your presence will never fail. We lift our sisters before You, asking that they would treasure You above all else and that Your words will provide the life and comfort that they need.*

## Weekly Prayer Guide

Will you pray for the Muslim women of South Asia? All of these prayers were written by Christian workers who serve among them.

**Sunday:** Pray for the Muslim women of South Asia to set aside their religious pride and allow the truth of the Gospel to penetrate their needy hearts. *Colossians 3:12*

**Monday:** Pray for our sisters to understand Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Pray that their search for the way would end in eternal life. *John 14:6*

**Tuesday:** Pray for the women of Pakistan—that they will know that the walls around them are no barrier to God and ask that these women will call their walls salvation and their gates praise. *Isaiah 60:18*

**Wednesday:** Pray for the women of West Bengal, India, as they are not only lost, but are also part of a persecuted minority community in this Hindu-dominated society. *Matthew 5:10*

**Thursday:** Pray for women to have the opportunity to know Christians who practice their faith daily. *1 Peter 3:15*

**Friday:** Pray for the families and communities of believers—that they will accept them in society. *John 15:19*

**Saturday:** Pray for protection and faith for believers who are living secretly out of fear of death or persecution. *1 Peter 4:12-14*

For a 31-day calendar with prayer requests for each day and for specific women, go to [www.adorned.go2southasia.org](http://www.adorned.go2southasia.org).

