

Teaching Guide -The Rajbanshi People

Instructions for Leaders or Teachers

- Study all the material yourself before sharing it with others.
- Introduce the people group to the children.
- Listen to the audio information that describes the people group.
- Listen to any additional information provided.
- Do these things in the order listed. Some points can be skipped over if not usable.
- Use a map of globe to locate the area where the people group lives.
- Have children do map work that is age appropriate.
- Talk about the location of the Rajbanshi people group in relation to the equator.
- Ask “Do the Rajbanshi people live close to the equator?” If the answer is “Yes”, this indicates a hot/tropical climate.
- Ask, “Do the Rajbanshi people live in a mountain area?” If the answer is “Yes”, this will indicate a colder/cooler climate.
- Have the children name the countries surrounding the country where the Rajbanshi people group live.
- Look at the map included and see if the country has any access to an ocean or a river which would allow transport of goods.
- Talk about the ways the Rajbanshi people group provide for basic human needs:
 - Food
 - Clothing
 - Shelter
 - Human relationships
 - Compare the answers with the way your own people provide these needs.
 - Are these customs of the Rajbanshi people different from the way you live?
 - Talk about the importance of color and the meaning of color.
 - Talk about festivals and music.

- Talk about the animals that live in this country where the Rajbanshi people live. Are the animals helpful to the people? Are the animals a danger to the people?
- What are the main spiritual beliefs of the Rajbanshi people?
 - Have any of these people placed their faith in Jesus Christ?
 - Is there a church where these people may gather together to worship and study?
 - Do any Christians in this group face persecution, (treatment in a harsh or cruel way) for their beliefs?
- Ask your group of children if the Rajbanshi people have any part of God's Word (The Bible), translated into their own language?
- Ask if they have any other Christian material?
 - Bible stories
 - Christian radio
 - Christian music Christian drama
 - Christian audiocassettes
- Pray for the Rajbanshi people group using the prayer points you have heard. Are the children able to think of other things for which to pray?
- Are there people groups in your country who are still waiting to hear the message of God's love for all peoples? Pray for them too!
- Are there children or adults in your group who might like to train as Bible Translators? A Bible Translator put the words of the Bible into the words of a different language.
- Review the names and countries of other people groups you have already studied.
- If a craft or color page is included this week and is useful for your group of children to work on, do it now.

R

Rajbanshi

(raji-BAHN-shee)

Separate the yarn. Slide the shuttle. Whooshi! Make the weaving tight. Hooshi! Change the strands. Slide the shuttle. Whooshi! Make it tight. Hooshi! Slide. Whooshi! Tighten. Hooshi! Change. Listen. Listen to the quiet rhythm of good weaving.

A beautiful Rajbanshi girl from Nepal earns money to help her family. She is an excellent fast weaver. She leans on the backstrap to hold the cloth firm and pushes with her feet against the wooden bar. Her loom is made of strong wood that will not bend. Push and feel the tension of good weaving. It is hard to make a living from the land. Most Rajbanshi farmers work long hours to grow just enough food for their families.

The Rajbanshi people do not have the Bible in their own language.





The Rajbanshi People

Continent: Asia

Country: Nepal

Geographical Information:

The Kingdom of Nepal is surrounded by India on the south and China to the north. The eastern border includes Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Look on the map of Asia and find these five countries.

- The highest mountains of our world are in Nepal. They are called the Himalayas.
- In the Nepalese language, hima means snow, and the word alaya means home. Thus the name means “eternal home of snow”.
- Nepal also has forested tropical plains where the lordly Bengal Tigers stalk their prey.
- Another interesting kind of animal that lives in the Rajbanshi area of Nepal are Snow Leopards
- The Rajbanshi are one of many different language groups living in the tropical plains area of Nepal.

Facts about the Rajbanshi people:

- The Rajbanshi are a dark-skinned people of medium height.
- Their language is also called Rajbanshi. Some of the people can also speak Nepali, which is the official language of Nepal.
- Most Rajbanshi are farmers who only grow enough food for their own families. They also raise some animals.
- Some Rajbanshi have begun to earn money by their excellent weaving.
- Rajbanshi homes are made of wood, bamboo, thatch and mud.
- The Rajbanshi houses are grouped in villages. Some villages have only ten homes. Other villages have as many as one hundred homes.
- Most Rajbanshi homes include just one family of parents and their children.
- Rajbanshi fathers are the head of the household.

- The father's arrange most marriages. The actual marriage follows the old Hindu rites and ceremonies.
- The Rajbanshi people dress very simply. Men wear knee length dhotis, (a baggy type of trousers) and loincloths.
- Rajbanshi women wear pieces of cloth wrapped around their bodies that cover down to their knees.
- The Rajbanshi people are Hindus. They worship hundreds of gods and goddesses.
- Every village has a separate hut for worship of the goddess Kali. (She is their false goddess of creation.)
- Nepal is the only Hindu Kingdom in the world. The leaders of this kingdom are opposed to any form of Christian witness.
- There are harsh laws and persecution against those who become Christian.
- Only a tiny handful of Rajbanshi believe in Jesus.
- Some of those few Christians have been put in prison for their beliefs.
- None of God's Message has been translated into the Rajbanshi language.
- No Christian missionaries are working among these people. (Missionaries are people who go to a country not their own, to share the Good News of Christ.)
- The Rajbanshi people live far from roads, cities and modern life.
- This makes it difficult for them to learn how much God loves them.
- It is difficult for them to give up their belief in many false gods and put their trust in the one true God.

You can pray for the Rajbanshi people.

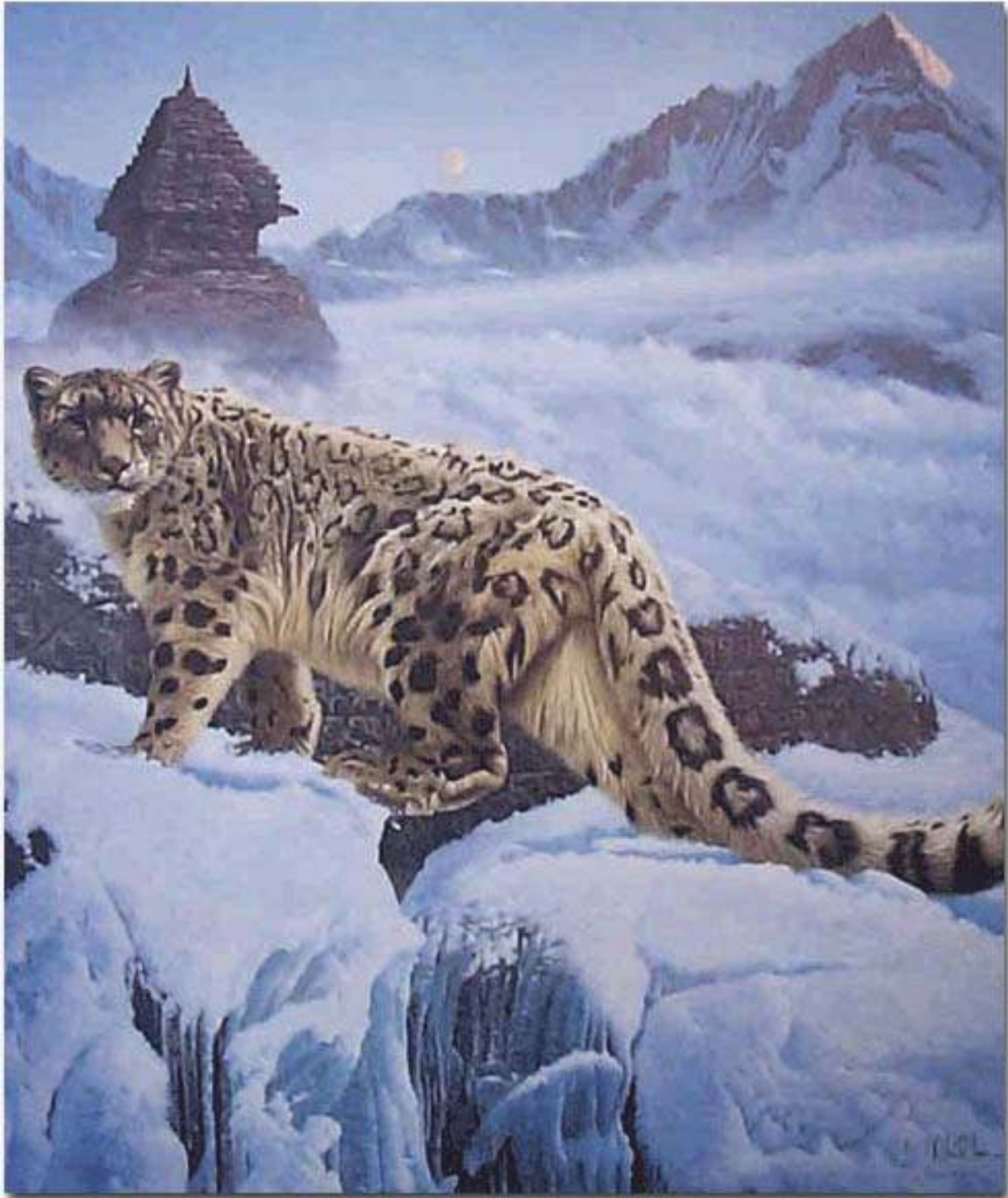
- Pray that God will strengthen and protect the small number of Rajbanshi Christians.
- Ask God to change the mind of leaders in Nepal. Pray they will allow missionaries to live among the people and share the Good News of Jesus.

Nepal Animal Study

Snow Leopards

Snow leopards are large wild cats that live in the snowy mountains of Central Asia. They often live in rugged rocks just above the tree line and close to permanent snowfields.

- Snow Leopards are graceful, medium-sized cats. They grow to be about 3.5 feet (1 m) long. Adults weigh from 60-120 pounds (27-55 kg).
- Male snow leopards are larger than the females.
- Snow leopards are well hidden in the snow and rocks because their bodies are covered with dark spots on creamy white fur. This allows them to blend into their surroundings.
- Snow leopard cubs are gray when they are born. There are usually two or three cubs born in each litter.
- Snow leopards are fast runners, good swimmers and excellent climbers.
- Snow leopards often hide their food in trees.
- The call of a snow leopard sounds like a raspy cough, not a roar.
- Snow Leopards are meat-eaters. They hunt wild sheep, small marmots, pikas, rabbits, birds and other animals.
- Snow leopards hunt at dawn and dusk because they are nocturnal (active at night).
- Snow Leopards are in danger of all being killed off. They are losing habitats (place to live). The animals they eat are all being killed off and people are hunting them too much.



Snow Leopards





Snow Leopard



Copyrights and Creative Commons license

The license used here makes 7 important provisions.

You are free, indeed encouraged, to do the following:

- Copy, print, distribute, display, and teach from Spark materials in any way you wish.
- Make changes for your own use and for distribution to others.
- Make any sort of non-commercial copies, ministry copies, or personal copies, from any Spark material, without further notice.

Under the following conditions:

- You properly cite the original authors of the material you find here. Pages on www.vernacularmedia.org without a clear authorship should be cited to vernacularmedia.org on your copies.
- You must retain the BY-NC-SA license on your copies of materials copied from www.vernacularmedia.org. (You must not trample the commons.)
- You must not change the license. (You must not steal from the commons.)
- You must ask for permission for use of Spark materials outside of this list. (You need permission to take work out of the commons.)

By Spark Team