



# Summer 2010

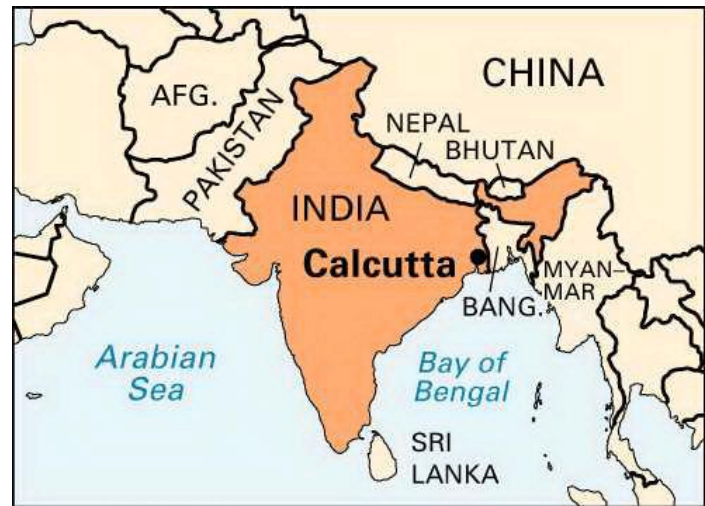
**Location:** India **Dates:** 1<sup>st</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**Partner:** Emmanuel Ministries Calcutta

## Country Information

India is a parliamentary federal republic consisting of 28 states and 7 union territories. It has the world's twelfth largest economy at market exchange rates and the fourth largest in purchasing power. Economic reforms have transformed it into the second fastest growing large economy; however, it still suffers from high levels of poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition. A pluralistic, multilingual, and multiethnic society, India is also home to a diversity of wildlife in a variety of protected habitats.

Calcutta served as the capital of India during the British Raj until 1911. Once the centre of modern education, industry, science, culture and politics in India, Kolkata witnessed intense political violence, clashes and economic stagnation from the years starting 1954 and continuing till this day. However, since the year 2000, economic rejuvenation has led to a spurt in the city's growth. Like the other metropolitan cities of India, Kolkata continues to struggle with urbanisation problems like poverty, pollution and traffic congestion.



## Partner Information

Emmanuel Ministries Calcutta (EMC) is an umbrella organisation encompassing a number of welfare and development programmes. A Christian couple that had a concern for the urban poor of Calcutta founded it. EMC targets the poorest people in Calcutta, such as street children, slum dwellers and rickshaw pullers. Children in the city are frequently abandoned or abused, and seek to survive on the streets or railway platforms by small income generating activities, or by turning to crime and prostitution. EMC has set up a number of centres to help rehabilitate street children, slum dwellers, and other members of the urban poor.

## Team Activities

The team will be focusing on three main projects. They will be helping at the Calcutta Emmanuel School and Pavement Club, which provides formal and non-formal education for children from underprivileged backgrounds or from the street. The team will help by taking assemblies, assisting teachers in the classes and participating in Scripture classes. The team will also be involved in several Community Development Projects, such as health and hygiene instruction, medical clinics, youth clubs and adult literacy classes. This will give them opportunity to interact with the local community. The team will also help out at the Calcutta Samaritans, which has an extensive programme in drug abuse prevention and promoting the awareness of HIV/AIDS. The team will also be expected to participate in the church activities, sharing their testimonies and getting involved in the worship.

### About Tearfund

We are Christians passionate about the local church bringing justice and transforming lives – overcoming global poverty. And so our ten-year vision is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a worldwide network of 100,000 local churches.



Sources: en.wikipedia.org

