



## SOUTH ASIA CHEAT SHEET TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR eMi² TRIP GUIDE

*...to glorify God by offering hope to the spiritually and physically poor.*

### DO'S...

- Take time to research the culture of the area you will be working in.
- Act as a responsible, professional representative of **eMi²**.
- Give people (Team members, Clients, Locals) the benefit of the doubt.
- Triangulate : Ask 3+ people for directions, advice, & answers if lost or confused.
- Attempt to converse in the local language, the effort will be appreciated.
- Attempt to confirm travel plans w/ airline, trains, taxis... before departing.
- Be flexible!

### DON'TS...

- Take photos of people without asking.
- Hold hands/touch a person of the opposite gender in public.
- Get caught up in schedules, expectations, or being "On Time".
- Complain about the country (Climate, Cleanliness, Transportation...) to a national.
- Be afraid to ask questions.
- Assume everyone has the same values, priorities, preferences... as you do.

### SOME HELPFUL TIPS...

- Remember we are here to serve the client.
- More luggage = more stress.
- In dress, always err on the side of conservative.
- Start with small portions of food.
- Have your brief testimony ready to share.
- Try to avoid using slang from your own language, you will be much easier to understand.
- Observe your surroundings. Simply being aware will help keep you from getting lost, or scared,
- Note the social habits of your host, and do the same. (Shoes off, greetings, gender interactions...)
- Body language can often tell you what the person you are speaking with really means.
- Journaling about what you see, hear, and experience is a great processing tool.

# WHAT'S YOUR NAME?...

IF THEY ARE...	MALE	FEMALE
YOUNGER* THAN YOU	NAME OR BHAIYA	NAME OR BAHEN
SAME AGE** AS YOU	BROTHER OR BHAIYA	SISTER OR BAHEN
OLDER THAN YOU, BUT YOUNGER THAN YOUR PARENTS	BHAI-SAAB	DIDI
YOUR PARENTS' AGE	UNCLE (JI)	AUNTY (JI)

\*If you are old enough to be a child's parent, you can use baya (son/daughter).  
\*\*If you are of the same gender, you can use his/her name.

## THOUGHTS FROM OTHERS...

"I praise God for teaching me more about His love and answering my prayer to use this experience to not only touch my life and the lives of the people here in India, but also even all those back at home..."  
- Gretchen, 2004

(On the subject of poverty) "I guess you realize that all you can do is let the Lord use you where you are and trust that he is using other people in the same way in other places to change the situation as a whole."  
- Nathan, 2005

The sick are healed, the orphans cared for, the widows dignified, the oppressed freed, the hungry fed, and the suffering given rest. Burdens are released, cycles of poverty broken, and hope restored. What other joy is there? The church is alive here, and there is no greater thing. God is moving in this land."  
- Eric, 2007

"You may have to wrestle with some things, but that probably means that God wants you to learn something."  
- Kyle, 2008

## SOME COMMON GESTURES...

**"NAMASTE"**  
Hello or Goodbye



Bring prayerful hands below your chin & pause

**"?"**  
Who? What? When?...



Twist hand counter-clockwise, fingers pointing upward

**"JI NAHI"**  
NO! (Strong & Informal)



Point vertical hand away from body, swivel quickly, repeat

**"BUS, BUS"**  
That's Enough, No More



Palm down, lower hand slightly, repeat