



# House of Israel International Ministries



שלחות בית ישראל בן לאומית  
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Abiding in the hope of Israel. [www.hoisrael.org](http://www.hoisrael.org)

P.O.Box 143 Wynnewood, PA 19096 Tel. (610) 348 4733

## August 2010

## Ethiopian Jewish News Update

As you may know, Jewish people can be found most anywhere in the world. I don't believe this was by accident or coincidence but is an integral part of God's plan to reach all the nations with His Holy Word, the Torah.

Many times in our history, Jewish people were exiled out of their covenantal Holy Land or their original ancestral lands. While assimilation was often a reality for those who found themselves in strange, new lands, still most of their customs and the Law went with them.

I believe God wanted the nations to be exposed to the moral codes and lifestyle Judaism presents. India is one of the many places with a large number of Jews. Estimates place their numbers at 65,000 with five distinct groups in India .

The **Cochin Jews** arrived in India 2,500 years ago and settled down in Cochin, Kerala as traders. The **Bene Israel** arrived in the state of Maharashtra 2,100 years ago.

The **Baghdadi Jews** arrived in the city of Mumbai from Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Arab countries about 250 years ago. The **Bnei Menashe** are tribesmen in Manipur and Mizoram who claim descent from the tribe of Manasseh. The **Bene Ephraim** (also called "Telugu Jews") are a small group who speak Telugu, and their observance of Judaism dates to 1981.



Unlike my Ethiopian brethren, the Jews of India have prospered and risen to prominence to some degree. They are educated. They experience little, if any, persecution. They have assimilated well into Indian society while still maintaining their customs and traditions. So, why am I writing to you about them?

I am sensing in my spirit that it is the set time for the Jews of India to be exposed to their one true Messiah, Yeshua. What an amazing transformation knowing Him would make in their lives. In some cases, it might even lead to their desiring to make aliyah to Israel..

Some Indian Jews have already made aliyah and taken their places in Israeli society. They are industrious and talented. They are the kind of *olim* (immigrants) Israel especially welcomes.



An Indian dancer at one of the Jewish festivals



A map of India, showing the main areas of Jewish concentration

**The House of Israel International Ministries** wants to train and send teams to the areas of India where there are large numbers of Jews in order to share Yeshua with them..



*The Jewish flag of the Bnei Menashe who claim descent from the tribe of Manasseh*

Admittedly, all this is in the planning stages -- but with God's blessing and your tax- deductible gift this month, we can begin to take specific steps to move forward with an Indian outreach.

Many of the Jews of India came originally from Ethiopia. They, like their Jewish brethren worldwide, must be given the opportunity to hear the Good News. Who better to share this precious message than Messianic Jews?

Your tax-deductible gift can help to facilitate this prophetic last-days movement of God to reach an important remnant of His people. What an exciting prospect this presents for each of us!

Sincerely,

**Kokeb Gedamu**

Messianic Rabbi and Founder

Please help as best you can! Be a part of helping us to reach Jewish people with the Gospel message!

*Thank you!*

**Our special gift to you from the House of Israel International Ministries for your donation of \$50 or more this month**

Kokeb Gedamu's new book "Journey Beyond Imagination" traces how he and his family miraculously undertook and survived an odyssey that took them through six nations. His inspiring story will bless you and dramatically demonstrate how God protected and brought him to the leadership role he has today among both Messianic Jews and Christians.

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