



Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is a teardrop-shaped island country in the Indian Ocean. It used to be called Ceylon, and it is about 20 miles (32 km) southeast of India. Parts of the island are mountainous, and other parts are hilly plains. A tropical rain forest covers part of Sri Lanka's southwestern region. The island is home to many kinds of jungle animals including crocodiles, elephants, sloth bears, and snakes.

The nation was ruled by ancient kingdoms, Portugal, and the British in the past. It gained its independence in 1948 and changed its name to Sri Lanka, which means "Resplendent Land," in 1972. Sri Lanka has two capitals. Colombo is the executive and judicial capital, and Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte, about 5 miles (8 km) away, is the administrative capital.

There are several different people groups who live in Sri Lanka. The largest two are the Sinhalese and the Tamils. The Sinhalese are from northern India and make up about 74% of the people. The Tamils are from southern India and make up about 18% of the people. The two groups speak two different languages and practice two different religions, and sometimes they have fought with each other.

Farmers grow many kinds of crops including coconuts, rice, and sugar cane. One of the country's major crops is tea. Sri Lanka sends more tea to other countries than almost any other nation in the world.



Colombo is Sri Lanka's capital and largest city. It's also a very important port on the Indian Ocean and has one of the largest artificial harbors in the entire world. We don't know when it was founded, but it is mentioned in records as far back as the A.D. 400s.

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I hope you've enjoyed visiting four of the many amazing places in Sri Lanka! Before you leave to go home, could I ask you to do something special for the people here? Most of the people in Sri Lanka do not know about Jesus and don't understand that Jesus loves them and paid the price for their sins. Pray that everyone in Sri Lanka will know and believe in Jesus as their Savior.

Will you remember to pray for the people of Sri Lanka? Here are a few more things you can pray for. You can add more prayer requests to the list as you think of them!



Pray that all people will understand how much Jesus loves them.



Pray for the people living in Colombo and Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte, Mirissa, Polonnaruwa, and the area near Sigiriya, plus every other city and town to believe in Jesus.

