

THE TANGCHANGYA OF BANGLADESH

Khon laughed to himself when he saw the reason his dog was barking so loudly. The dog had cornered a Bengali man who sat perched on a tree, looking warily at the fiercely-barking dog. Khon called his dog to his side, and walked over to the tree. “Do you need something?” he called up to the Bengali man with a note of sarcasm. The Bengali man got down from the tree, and hurried off without saying a word. “I know why you are here,” called Khon. “My family has been here for many generations. You Bengalis can’t have our land just because there are more of you than there are of us. If I see you here again, I won’t call off my dog.”

Khon is one of the 37,000 **Tangchangya** people who live in the Chittagong Hill tract district in south eastern Bangladesh. Most of them have dogs, perhaps to protect their land from the numerous Bengalis who are constantly looking for new land to take as Bangladesh continues to become more crowded.

The **Tangchangya** people are Theravada Buddhists, though their Buddhism has so many animistic overtones that one can hardly tell what religion they follow. There is a sizable Christian minority (23.1%), but many are nominal in their faith.

- Pray against the forces of darkness over this people group, particularly the spirit of Buddhism and animism.
- Pray for God’s intervention in the ongoing conflict and hostilities between the **Tangchangya** and the Bengali settlers.
- Commit the **Tangchangya** Christian minority to God that they may be revived and discipled.
- Pray for effective outreach efforts amongst the **Tangchangya**.

This is a series of useful prayer profile compilations to pray for people groups collated from various online sources. Please click on the links below for more info:

<https://joshuaproject.net/>, <http://www.globalprayerdigest.org/>,
<http://asiaharvest.org/people-group-profiles/>