

## The Kinh of Vietnam

“Are you ready, Anh?” called Mai. Her granddaughter Hoang Anh hurried out of her room, dressed in her new pink *ao dai* and busily applying her lipstick. “When I was your age, I didn’t take that long to get dressed for the Tet Lunar New Year!” Mai exclaimed. “The temple will be crowded with people offering New Year prayers if we don’t hurry.” She smiled to herself, knowing why Hoang Anh wanted to look her best. Her boyfriend Viet Nhung would also be in the temple with his family. “At least, our young people are free to pursue love in peaceful conditions,” thought Mai, recalling her hard life as a teenager in Hanoi during the Vietnam War. “Life has certainly improved nowadays.”

Commonly called the ‘Vietnamese’, the 79.6 million **Kinh** are Vietnam’s largest ethnic group. Their history is characterized by war and conflict with outside invaders.

While communist rule in Vietnam has resulted in many **Kinh** being non-religious by nature, religious practices still survive during festivals, weddings and funerals. The average **Kinh** professes to be Mahayana Buddhist but adheres to Confucian principles with regard to family ties and is often influenced by Taoist beliefs as well. Some **Kinh** in southern Vietnam are followers of indigenous religious sects such as the Cao Dai and the Hoa Hao.

About 9.4% of the **Kinh** are Christians, mostly Catholics with a few Protestants. The majority of **Kinh**, particularly in northern Vietnam however remain in spiritual darkness.

- Pray that the **Kinh** may experience salvation through Christ who is the Prince of Peace.
- Pray for **Kinh** believers in Christ to remain steadfast despite pressures from the communist authorities.
- Pray for mission workers and evangelists to reach the **Kinh** in many of the cities and villages that are unreached in northern Vietnam.

---

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/>