



## THE CHRISTIAN AND FRANCISCAN PRESENCE AMONG THE PARKARI: FROM THE BEGINNING TO BR WALFRED

- In the **1940s**, **James Dean**, a lawyer and catechist from India was the **first Christian missionary**.
- In July **1943**, **Kazo Cajetan** was the **first baptized Parkari** and the first missionary to his people.
- In **1945** the **first Friars Minor** arrived, followed by the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Christ the King.

- In the **1960s**, **Kazo**, in collaboration with James Dean, arrived in the Nagar Parkari area, where he **established his first parishes**.
- In subsequent years, the Christian presence grew more and more, with numerous vocations to the priesthood. Some schools were built, as well as a **clinic for the treatment of tuberculosis commissioned by Sister Beatrix**, a member of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Christ the King.

- In the mid-**1980s**, many **Christian "Parkari" were forced to convert to Hinduism** because of pressure from extreme right-wing parties.
- In **1995** **Brother Joseph Karo**, a **Franciscan Friar**, became the **first Parkari priest**, and the following year the New Testament was published in the local language.

- Currently, there are **5 parishes** linked to Parkari communities, with **6 priests, 2 friars, and 6 sisters**. **Brother Walfred**, a friar and nurse, deals with the **treatment and prevention of tuberculosis** within the mission.

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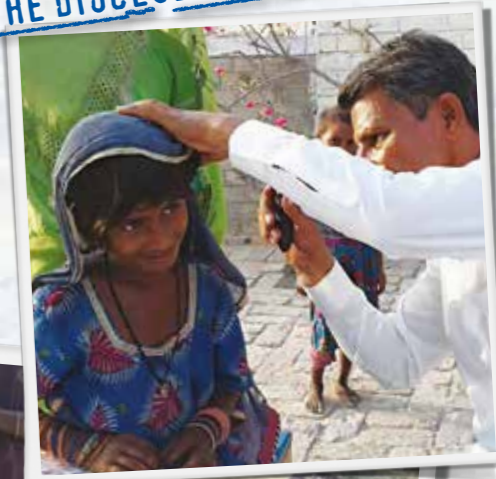


## LET'S HELP BR WALFRED TO BRING HEALTH AND HOPE TO THE PARKARI TRIBE IN PAKISTAN



"I am a Franciscan friar and a nurse. My mission is to treat the men, women, and children of the Parkari tribe, the least of the least. Taking care of the body and teaching care for life is for me the most important way to make known the love of God for all people"

FRANCISCAN MEDICAL MISSION IN THE DIOCESE OF HYDERABAD



1940

1960

1980

TODAY

# HELP BR WALFRED TREAT PATIENTS WITH TUBERCULOSIS

Br Walfred Mohan, a Franciscan friar and nurse, carries out his medical mission among the Parkari, an impoverished tribe in Pakistan. Every day he brings health and hope to the least of the least and in particular to those suffering from tuberculosis, who are very poor and marginalized from society. Even today in Pakistan tuberculosis kills 60,000 people every year, and many doctors refuse to treat this disease despite there being effective therapies. Br Walfred, with his work of care, prevention, and information for the benefit of the poorest and those who are always at risk, bears witness to God's infinite love for every person and especially all those who suffer.

## WHAT BR WALFRED DOES EVERY DAY:

- **Visits** new patients and monitors patients already in treatment.
- **Engages in the care and prevention of tuberculosis:** training meetings for prevention and treatment.
- **Runs a Health and Hygiene Education program** and organizes of free medical camps in rural areas.
- **Organizes transport of patients** from rural areas to hospitals.
- **Raises awareness of health and hygiene standards** in schools and provides information on the adverse effects of drugs and alcohol among adults.
- **Water sanitation:** education and training.

## OUR HELP IS NEEDED TO CONTINUE THIS WORK OF LOVE FOR THE LEAST:

Health education for young couples and mothers with babies	3.500 USD
Medical camps in 18 villages for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of tuberculosis	10.000 USD
Tuberculosis drugs	10.000 USD
Other drugs	4.000 USD
Home visits of patients	1.000 USD
Water filtering systems	3.350 USD
Expenses for the transport of the sick, for camps organization in the 18 villages, for gasoline, and for the food needs of volunteers and staff	4.900 USD
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36.750 USD</b>

**SUPPORT BR WALFRED'S HEALTH AND PREVENTION PROGRAMMES IN PAKISTAN:  
HELP US CARE FOR AND DEFEND THE HEALTH OF OUR PARKARI BROTHERS AND SISTERS.**

FRANCISCAN MEDICAL MISSION  
IN THE DIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

## PAKISTAN



An Islamic parliamentary republic, **founded in 1973, that shares a long with India.**

Until 1947 it was an English protectorate, and after the end of British rule an independent state was established for the Muslim

minority of the Indian sub-continent. It is the sixth most populous country in the world, and **despite being an Islamic parliamentary republic, 2% of the population is Christian.** Hindus and Buddhists are also present.

Today Pakistan is a young democracy in a country afflicted by severe economic and political problems. **The majority of the population, which is among the youngest in the world, has no access to education and health.**

## THE PARKARI TRIBES



**The Parkari Kholis are a tribe that reside mainly in Sindh** (one of the four provinces of Pakistan) which has 35.4 million inhabitants. The capital is Mithi, where there is a Franciscan parishes. The name of

the tribe means "those who have crossed" and refers to the transfer from Rajasthan to Virawah, a much more fertile area.

**Considered for centuries to be at the lowest level of society,** the Parkary became free under British rule, which abolished slavery.

**The division of the Indian continent into India and Pakistan in 1947 further impoverished the Parkari population,** which lost its traditions. Frequent periods of drought have forced many inhabitants of the area to emigrate in search of seasonal work, with the idea of returning at the start of the rainy season. Unfortunately, the long periods away from home **have led many families to accumulate large debts, which are often passed on to future generations.**

