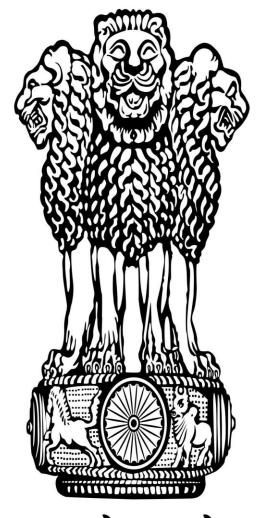
India

By Charvi







सत्यमेव जयते

Government Of India

Indian Flag

♦ The National Flag of India is a horizontal rectangular tricolour of deep saffron, white and Indian green with the Ashoka Chakra, a 24-spoke wheel, in navy blue at its centre.



Geography



India is in south Asia. It is a large country and it is the 7th largest country in the world. India is a federal union comprising 28 states and 8 union territories. It borders with 7 other countries. They are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. India covers an area of roughly 3.287 million sq. km. It is roughly one third the size of America or China.

India

- India is a country in South Asia and is officially known as the Republic of India.
- ♦ It is the second most populated country in the world with over 1.3 billion citizens.
- ♦ The capital of India is New Delhi.
- Indian Independence Day is celebrated on August 15.
- There are many languages spoken in India but the official language is Hindi.
- The currency of India is the Indian Rupee.
- The national animal is the Bengal tiger.
- ♦ The national anthem of India is Jana Gana Mana.
- People in India greet each other by saying 'Namaste' which means 'I bow my head to you.'

India's Future

- ♦ As the fastest growing economy today, India is home to a fifth of the world's youth.
- ♦ Half of its population of 1.3 billion is below the age of 25, and a quarter is below the age of 14.
- ♦ India's young population is its most valuable asset and most pressing challenge.
- ♦ It has one of the youngest populations in an aging world.
- By 2022 the median age of India will be just
 28 as compared with 37 in China and the US,
 45 in Western Europe and 49 in Japan.



Education

Today the Indian government is investing more money in education and 80% of schools are government-run. Education is free to children from 6-14 year old. Some schools, especially in rural areas, are small and under resourced and others are big and modern. Many children also attend private or international schools in India. While more than 95 percent of children attend primary school, just 40 percent of Indian youths attend secondary school.

India's higher education system has undergone rapid expansion over the past few decades. India now has one of the largest higher education systems in the world (after China and the US)

India's higher education system was ranked 26th in the world in the QS Higher Education System Strength Rankings, and is especially well-known for the quality of its education in engineering and technology subjects, spearheaded by the Indian Institute of Science(IISc) and the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). There are currently 23 of these, located around the country, focusing mainly on engineering, technology and science disciplines.





Mahatma Gandhi

- Mahatma Gandhi was an Indian lawyer.
- ♦ He was the leader of India's nonviolent independent movement against British rule.
- ♦ He is known as the "Father of the Nation."
- ♦ He was born on October 2, 1869 and he was assassinated on January 30, 1948.



Mother Teresa



Mother Teresa was a Roman Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor around the world. She was sent to Calcutta, India to be a teacher. She founded the Missionaries of Charity which was a religious organization that worked to help people in need.

Agriculture

- ♦ Indian agriculture began by 9000 BC.
- ♦ India is the worlds second largest producer of wheat and rice.
- ♦ India ranks second worldwide in farm outputs
- ♦ India ranks first in the world with highest net cropped area followed by US and China.
- India has the worlds largest cattle population.
- India is also the world's largest producer of many fresh fruits like banana, mango, guava, papaya and lemon.





Taj Mahal



- The Taj Mahal is one of the Seven
 Wonder's of the world.
- ♦ The Taj Mahal is a white marble mausoleum on the bank of the river Yamuna in the Indian city of Agra.
- ♦ It was commissioned by Shah Jahan to house the tomb of his wife., Mumtaz Mahal.
- ♦ The construction f the Taj Mahal began in 1632 AD and completed in 1648 AD.



Holi

Holi is a popular ancient Hindu festival. It is also known as "the festival of colors." Holi falls on the Full moon day and heralds the arrival of Spring - the season of hope and new beginnings and marks the rekindling of the spirit of life. On the day of Holi, people throw colored powder into the air and splash them on others.



Diwali

- Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights.
- Diwali symbolizes the victory of light over darkness.
- ♦ The festival is widely associated with Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity and wealth.
- During Diwali people light diyas (oil lamps/candles) and place them all around their house.
- ♦ People also light firecrackers and gifts are shared.





National Symbols



The lotus is the official flower of India. It lotus was chosen as the national flower because it represents long life, honor and good fortune.

The Bengal tiger is the national animal of India. It has been chosen as the National animal due to its grace, strength, agility and enormous power.





The peacock is the nation bird of India. Peacocks symbolize respect for India for its grace, pride and beauty.

Culture



Bharata Natyam is a style of solo dance that comes from Southern India. It is the oldest classical dance tradition of India.



Kathakali is from the state of Kerala, in southwest India. The Kathakali dancers act out different characters in plays. They dress up in outsize costumes to give themselves a larger-than-life appearance. They also wear masks and face make-up



The Kuchipudi dance drama came into existence in the 17th century through the small village of Kuchipudi in Andhra Pradesh.

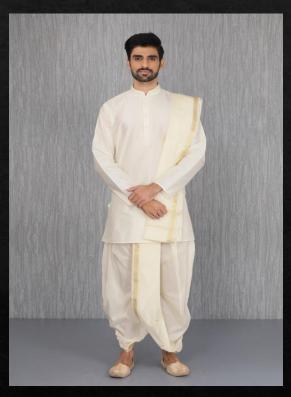
Food

- India is known for its fondness for food and spices.
- Indian cuisine categories are northern, southern, eastern and western.
- ♦ India is the second largest producer of food, after China.
- Traditional Indian food is served on banana leaves as that is considered hygienic ad heathy.
- ♦ People in India eat food using their right hand because the fingers are used to feel the temperature of the food and to combine flavors.
- Dosa is a form of pancakes that are usually eaten for breakfast.
- People often eat rice and curry.



Clothing









Religion

- ♦ India is home to several religions, but the most common is Hinduism.
- Roughly 95 percent of the world's Hindus live in India.
- Hinduism is believed to be the worlds oldest religion.
- There are two particular signs associated with Hinduism om and the swastika (a diagonal version of the swastika later became associated with Germany's Nazi Party).



Other religions include Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains.

Sport

- ♦ Hockey is the national sport of India.
- ♦ Cricket is the most popular sport in India.
- * Kabaddi is a contact sport, native to India. It is one of the most popular sports in India.









