India

It is the seventh-largest country in the world, with a total area of 3,287,263 square kilometers. India can be divided into six physiographic regions:

- Northern Mountains: Himalayas
- Peninsular Plateau: contains mountain ranges, ghats and plateaus.
- Indo-Gangetic Plain or The Northern Plains.
- Thar Desert
- Coastal Plains: Eastern Ghat folds and
- Western Ghats folds. Islands- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep islands.

In 2700 B.C.E., the first genuinely urban civilization in the Indus Valley and western India emerged. Aryabhata – the inventor of digit zero, is the first of the great astronomers of the classical age of India, born in 476 AD.

India was ruled by the British government after 1858 through a viceroy and a council. In 1930, the Indian National Congress, led by Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi, adopted a policy of civil disobedience with a view to achieving full national independence. It was to be a long struggle, but independence was achieved in 1947.

India's culture is among the world's oldest. The most common daily greeting in India is namaste. In Sanskrit "namaste" means "the divine in me bows to the divine in you" and it serves as both "hello" and "bye."

Indian food is diverse and full of flavors from around the country. Most popular dishes: Butter chicken, Chana masala, Palak paneer, Flatbreads (Garlic Naan, Roti, Puri), Fish curry, Samosa, Biryani and Kebab

Fun Facts

- India is the wettest inhabited place on Earth.
- During World War II, the Taj Mahal was disguised as a bamboo stockpile.
- It is customary in India to eat food with your fingers.
- The village of Shani Shingnapur is famous for not having a door or lock on a single house.

Indian Government

India is a multiparty democracy. India has a federal structure of government, in which the constitution divides power between the central government and the state governments. India’s central government has three branches—Executive (President, Vice-president, and Prime Minister), Legislative (Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha), and Judicial (Supreme court, High court and District courts and Session courts).

Asian Indian in the US and TN

An Indian sailor landed on the shores of shores of Massachusetts in 1790, just 14 years after the Declaration of Independence. Today, one out of every 100 Americans traces his or her roots to India (Source: https://smithsonianAPA.org/).

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<th>Asian Indian population in TN (2019 census)</th>
<th>Indian population in the U.S. (2019 census)</th>
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<td>29,231</td>
<td>4,606,000</td>
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