

## **India**

India is the second most populated country in the world with an estimated population of 1.13 Billion. About 80.5% of people in India are Hindus. Other religious groups include Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains. India celebrates many festivals. Some of them are Diwali, Holi, Eid ul-Fitr, Navratri and Christmas.

Hindi is the official language in India but there are 18 official languages listed in the laws of the country. English is understood by many and is used as the language for government and business purposes.

India is the second largest rice grower in the world. Many people in India are vegetarians. Indian food is famous for being spicy. Rice and bread are the main foods items for Indians. Different types of bread include chapattis, puris, naan and parathas.

Indian women usually wear saris or salwar kameez. A sari is a 6m long fabric made of beautiful colours and patterns. It is worn with ends tucked into a long skirt and part of it draped over the shoulder and sometimes the head. Salwar kameez is pants and a long top. Traditionally men in India wear Dhotis. Dhotis are knee length trousers made by wrapping cloth around the waist passing the ends between the legs and tucking it into the waist.

The Indian film industry, known as Bollywood, is the largest in the world. Dance and music play a big part in the lives of Indian people. There are many classical dances and music instruments that are still used today.

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