

# INDIA

## - THE HISTORY :

India, officially the Republic of India, is a country next to the Indian Ocean. It's the second-most populated country in the world. The capital city of India is New Dehli.

It's an English-speaking country but the Indians speak 23 other languages too. In India there is a large number of ethnies: more than 1500 .

India is a republic consisting of 28 states with a parliamentary system of democracy. The president is K.R. Narayanan. But the prime minister who is Manmohan Singh, is as important as the president.



The prime minister of India .

The currency of India is the Indian Rupee.

The British East India Company colonized from the early eighteenth century. Then India was colonized by Great-Britain from the mid-nineteenth century. India became an independent nation in 1947.

The flag : The national flag of India was adopted in 1947. The flag has got 3 horizontal stripes. One is "deep saffron"(orange), the second one is white with a navy blue wheel in the middle, and the last one is green . This wheel is inspired by Buddhism.

## -THE ENVIRONNEMENT:

### The Climate of India :

India has got three climatic areas:

- desert in the West
- glaciers in the North,

- humid tropical regions with rainforests in the South-West .

There are four seasons: Winter in January and February, Summer from March to May, a monsoon (rainy) season : from June to September, and a post-monsoon period from October to December.

The nation's climate is influenced by the Himalayas and the Desert.

## Landscape naturel :

The India has got gorgeous landscapes ,with her flowery valleys, incredible mountains, green forests, sunny beaches, amazing deserts, cascading rivers.

In the South there are beaches, coconut trees and the Indian Ocean. Out in the Bay of Bengal there are Andaman and Nicobar islands.

In the West there are the desert of Thar and the dry plains, while it rains all the time in the Eastern plain.



## - MONUMENTS :

India is a country where heritage and culture are very important. Thousands of tourists visit this country to explore the majestic hills, scenic splendors, temples, churches, sanctuaries and old monuments.

## The Taj-Mahal

- the **Taj Mahal** is considered as one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It's an important structure built in India from 1631 to 1653. It's a great example of the brilliance of Mughal architecture.

- The site was classified by the UNESCO in 1983.
- It was built to immortalize Mughal 's love for queen Mumtaz Mahal. It was built after the death of his wife. This gorgeous monument is made of white marble. It is an Islamic tomb. About 20 000 workers and more than 1 000 elephants were involved in the construction of this big and impressive edifice.
- Beautiful sculptures and precious stones adorn the walls of the Taj Mahal. There are four minarets. The exterior part of Taj Mahal is decorated with beautiful calligraphy and carvings. You can find inscriptions from the Quran carved all over the mausoleum. You can see the beauty of the Taj at its best during full moon nights.





## Lotus Temple

- **The Lotus Temple** is a brilliant piece of architecture that is located in the capital city of Delhi. It is also known as the Bahai House of Worship and it was built with marble in the 20th century by Fariborz Sahba.

**The Lotus Temple** is so called because of its lotus-like structure. This incredible piece of edifice is shaped like a half-opened lotus flower built in sparkling white marble. Since its creation, the Lotus Temple has drawn millions of tourists. It is one of the most visited monuments in India. The structure of the Lotus Temple reminds me of Sydney Opera House.



### **- SPORTS ET CULTURE :**

Though field hockey is the national sport of India, cricket is the most popular sport in the country.

Badminton is supposed to have originated in India 2000 years ago. It is a popular recreational sport all over India. Saina Nehwal, took part in the 2008 Summer Olympics. She has achieved a high ranking career in the world and has been named the Most Promising Player of 2008 by the Badminton World Federation. After winning the Indonesian Open (a Super Series Badminton Tournaments) that is equivalent to a tennis grand slam on June 21st, 2009 Saina reached the 8th position in world ranking.

Basketball is a very popular sport in India. It is played in almost every school, although very few people choose it professionally. India has both men and women teams of basketball.

Cricket is by far India's most popular sport. It has contributed many famous players to the game. India won the 1983 Cricket World Cup. India also won the first (and only) World Championship of Cricket in 1985

Music includes a variety of folk, pop, popular, classical music and R&B.

Indian traditional music. It has a very long history. It developed over several eras and remains essential to the lives of Indians today as a source of religious inspiration, cultural expression and pure entertainment.

India is made up of several dozen ethnic groups, speaking their own languages and dialects, and having very distinct cultural traditions.

