

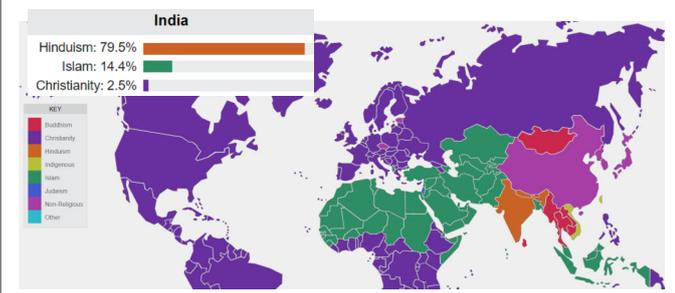


Topic: Hinduism

Year: 6

Strand: Why Hindus want to be good?

Map Of The World –showing World Religions



Key Information

Hinduism is the world's third most popular religion, with around 750 million followers. The religion of Hinduism originated in Northern India, near the river Indus, about 4000 years ago and is the world's oldest existing religion.



Hinduism is practised by more than 80% of India's population.

Place of Origin	India
Founder	Developed out of Brahminism
Sacred Text	Vedas, Upanishads
Sacred Building	Mandir
Major Festivals	Divali
Holy Place	River Ganges is one of many holy places

Hindus might describe life as a journey towards moksha. They generally believe in reincarnation, the cycle of birth, death and rebirth (samsara).

Alongside this they believe in karma, where their actions will make them responsible for their own life and how they treat other people. Throughout their life they will carry out their dharma (duty).

Their ultimate goal is to go through this cycle and achieve moksha; they can then be liberated from the cycle of life and rebirth and again be at-one with Brahman.

Mahatma Gandhi is one of the most famous Hindus, Gandhi was one of the most important people involved in the movement for the independence of India. He led the movement through a non-violent protest.

Enquiry Questions

- What is dharma and Karma?
- What is samsara and Moksha?
- Why is the atman important?
- If you believe in karma and reincarnation, how would that change your view of justice?

Key Vocabulary

Brahman	The ultimate reality, or the all pervading reality; that from which everything comes, in which it rests and into which it will eventually go.
atman	<b>Self.</b> Can refer to body, mind or soul, depending on context. Ultimately, it refers to the real self, the soul.
dharma	<b>Religion or religious duty</b> is the usual translation into English, but literally it means the <b>intrinsic quality of the self</b> or <b>that which sustains one's existence</b> .
karma	<b>Action.</b> Used of work to refer to the law of cause and effect.
samsara	In Hinduism, <b>all life goes through birth, life, death, and rebirth</b> and this is known as the cycle of samsara .
moksha	Liberation from the cycle of death and rebirth. Moksha literally means freedom from samsara
reincarnation	Being reborn in a different body.
shrine	A place (at the Mandir or home) where Hindus can worship. Offerings can be made and prayer can be said.

Retrieval Quiz

- 1)For Hindus, who is the ultimate God?
- 2)What part of this God is in every living thing?
- 3)What is reincarnation?
- 4)What is the cycle of reincarnation called?
- 5)What does Dharma mean?
- 6)What does 'good Karma' mean according to Hinduism?
- 7)In Hinduism what is the name of the liberation from cycle of birth and death?
- 8)What is the name of a place in the home where a Hindu may worship one of their Gods?
- 9)What animals are sacred in Hinduism?
- 10) Which famous Hindu was a lawyer, politician, social activist and became the leader of the nationalist movement against British rule of India?

Useful Websites

- <http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/hinduism.htm>
- <https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/hinduism>