

## For More Information:



Contact Indian Embassy in  
Washington, DC or Consulates in  
New York, Houston, Chicago, and  
San Francisco.

DC: [www.indianembassy.org](http://www.indianembassy.org)

New York: [www.indiacgny.org](http://www.indiacgny.org)

Houston: [www.cgihouston.org](http://www.cgihouston.org)

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Taj Mahal (17<sup>th</sup> Century)



Tanjore Temple (11<sup>th</sup> Century)

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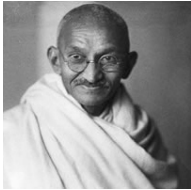
## India

Her history and people



## India Association of Tallahassee

# India



You must be the change you want to see in the world. M.K. Gandhi

## History

India (aka, Bharat) is one of the oldest civilizations of the world and home to the Indus Valley civilization dating back to 3000 BCE. Situated in the south Asian subcontinent, India is the largest democracy in the world. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most populace and 7<sup>th</sup> largest country in the world. It is the birth place of four major religions of the world (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism). Non-violent struggle against evil, an idea rooted in the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jainism's beliefs was made well known to the world by Father of India, Mohandas K. Gandhi during India's independent struggle against the British. Since independence, India has remained a democratic, independent, non-aligned and peaceful nation. Recently, India has become a knowledge & information-based economic power house.

## Geography

India is a democratic republic with President as the head of nation and Prime Minister as the head of the government. It is a multi-state, multi-lingual, multi-cultural, and multi-religious yet secular country.

India's neighbors are Myanmar, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. India is surrounded by the Himalayas in the North, Bay of Bengal in the East, Indian Ocean in the South and Arabic sea in the West.

India's climate is tropical. The Himalayas and peninsular shape of



Map of India (Wikipedia.org)

India produce three seasons: winter, summer and monsoon (rainy-season).

## People

Indians are very diverse in their cuisine, dress, language, and customs with distinct differences among people from the North, South, West and Northeast. At the same time there are many things that are common.

Indians are polite, simple, tradition bound, and conservative. Family is given more importance than individual members. Unity, respect, moral values and honor are held high. Visitors to India are well received and given a warm and personal welcome.

### *Some Famous Indians:*

- *M.K. Gandhi*
- *Rabindranath Tagore*
- *Indira Gandhi*
- *Ravi Shankar*
- *C. V. Raman*
- *Narayana Murthy*