



Hinduism

Terms



Mandir: A Hindu place of worship; a temple.

Reincarnation: Occurs after death when the eternal soul moves on to a new body.

The Vedas: The oldest scriptures in Hinduism, passed down orally until written in Vedic Sanskrit between 1500 & 500 BC. The texts are considered by some to be timeless & divine.

Pluralism: An acknowledgement that many religions may be true and co-exist rather than there being one 'true' religion.

Bindi: Is a decorative symbol on a person's forehead of the third, inner eye focusing inward towards God. These are also known by the names Kumkum, Sindoor, Teep, Tikli, and Bottu.



Dates

500 BCE
Consolidation of Hindu practices & building of temples.



1906
First major North American temple in San Francisco.

1920
Mahatma Gandhi begins non-cooperation campaign.

2000
A Sanskrit prayer was spoken for the first time in a joint session of Congress.

2014
Hindu Nationalist Party comes back into power.

Values

Dharma

Selfless Service

Ahimsa

Forbearance

Virtue



People



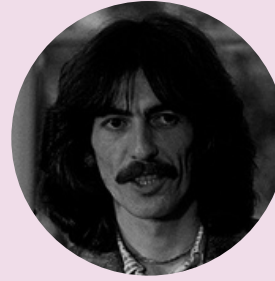
Ram Dass



Laxmi Narayan Tripathi



Sindhu Vee



George Harrison



Mirabai

Statistics



44%

Hindus feel closest to the deity Shiva.

Over 9 out of 10 Hindus worldwide live in India.

Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world, with 1.2 billion Hindus worldwide and

2.2 million in the U.S.

Closely tied to Hinduism though outlawed, the caste system is intertwined in the social fabric of India, stigmatizing those in the lowest caste:

100,000,000 (15%) people

Diwali is celebrated by

95%

of Indian American Hindus.

Action

- Wish someone a Happy Diwali and ask questions to learn more about this holiday celebration.
- Share our infographic.
- Attend a kirtan.
- Commit to one Hinduism appreciation action this week!
- Find a personally meaningful Hindu mantra and recite it during the day.



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