

# Diversity and National Identity

Sampoorna Biswas

What does it mean to “belong” to your country?

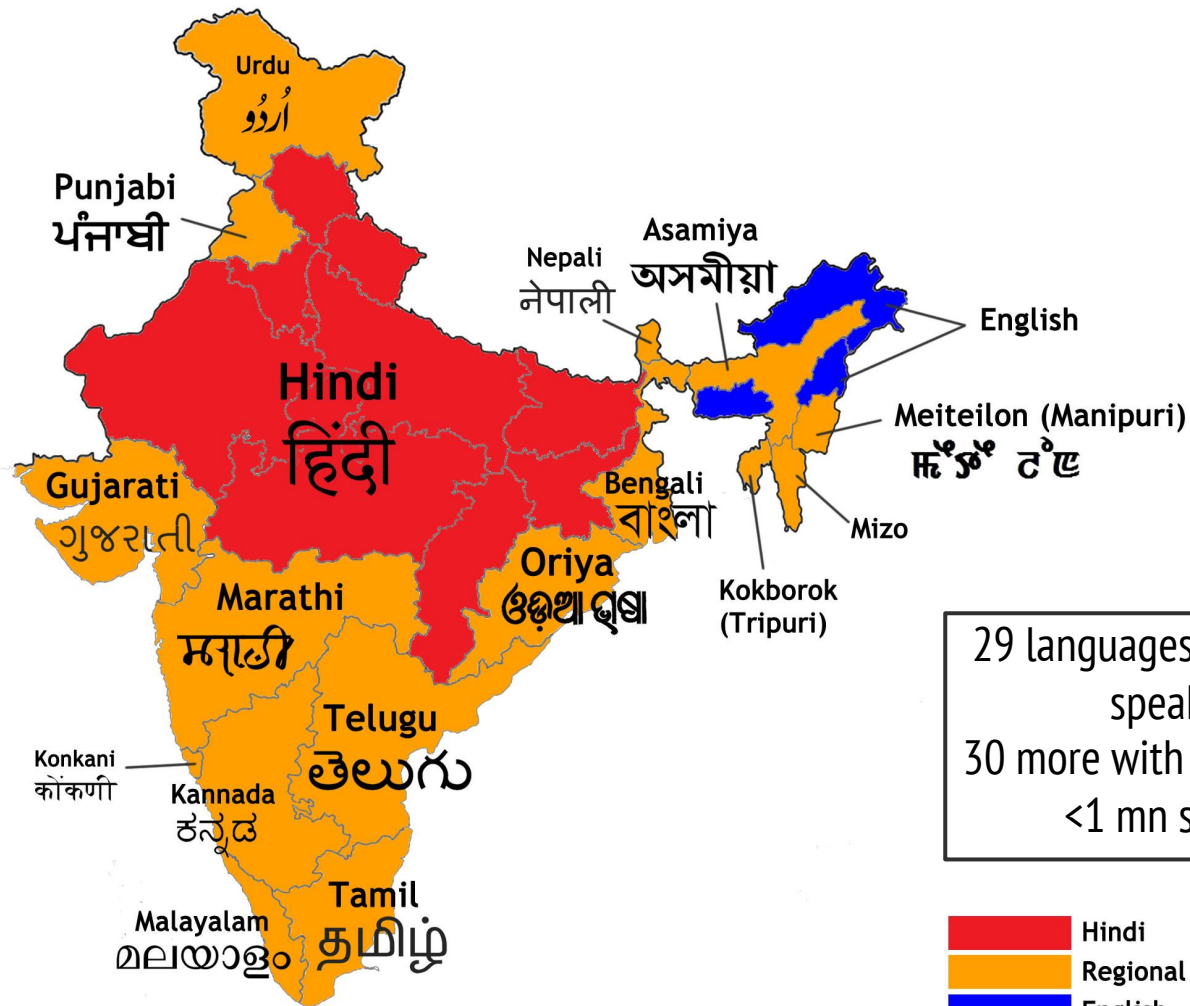
# South Asia



# According to Google Autocomplete

(And important to Pakistan too)

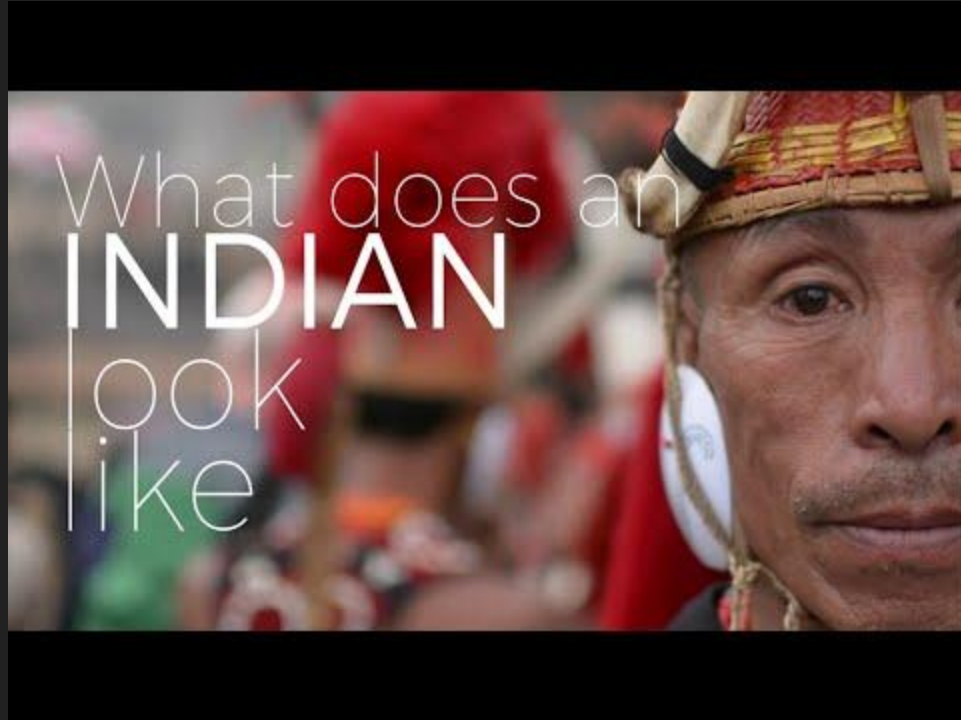




29 languages with > 1mn speakers  
 30 more with >100,000 and <1 mn speakers

- Hindi
- Regional
- English

What does it mean to “look Indian”?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgfAoOMgXPo>



While I was searching for that video ...

[If Indians are Asians, why do they look like Africans?](https://www.quora.com/If-Indians-are-Asians-why-do-they-look-like-Africans) - Quora

<https://www.quora.com/If-Indians-are-Asians-why-do-they-look-like-Africans> ▼

This is a silly question, we're all the same species and dark skin is adapted to areas closer to ...  
Indians look nothing at all like Africans where I am from.

[Why do some Mexicans and Indians look alike?](https://www.quora.com/Why-do-some-Mexicans-and-Indians-look-alike) - Quora

<https://www.quora.com/Why-do-some-Mexicans-and-Indians-look-alike>

I recently traced my origins using DNA testing. My Haplogroup, Q1 is the predominant ... to their skin.  
Hence a significant no. of Mexicans do look like Indians.

[What do Cherokee Indians look like?](http://www.reference.com) | Reference.com

[www.reference.com](http://www.reference.com) > History > Modern History > US History ▼

Cherokee Indians, like other Native Americans, have dark hair, brown skin, and a distinct bone structure. AccessGenealogy.com notes a broad and flat face and ...

[Why do Indians look like white people?](https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20131123192556AAHwjNv) | Yahoo Answers

<https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20131123192556AAHwjNv> ▼

Nov 23, 2013 - Indians and Bangladeshi people usually look somewhat European. What are they considered?

But the most hilarious one is:

how do indians look like

do american indians look like

what do anglo-indians look like

why do some indians look chinese

chinese looking indians

[why do asians look so different than other humans](#)


how indians look

north east indian look like chinese



# A little history




 Boundary of British India (1939)


 Union of India

 East/West Pakistan (1947)

 States not included in the partition plan

 Border conflicts

 Areas of riots after partition

 Movements of Hindu and Sikh refugees

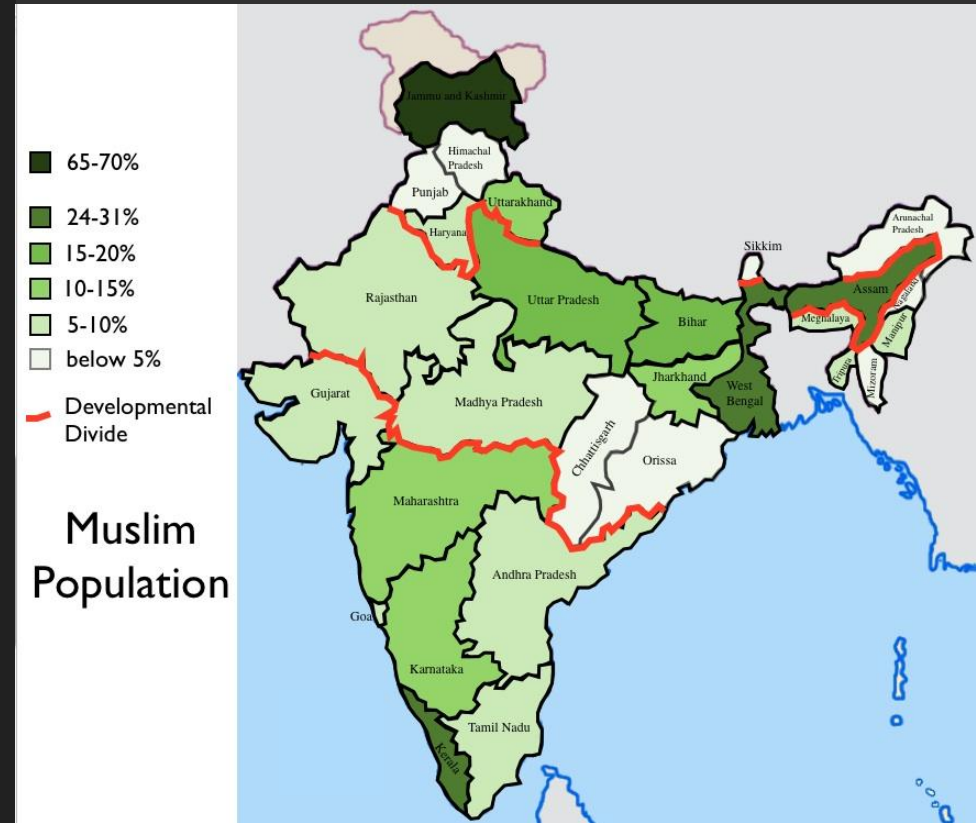
 Movements of Muslim refugees

Secular

# Huge Muslim Population

~14% as of 2011, 3rd largest in the world

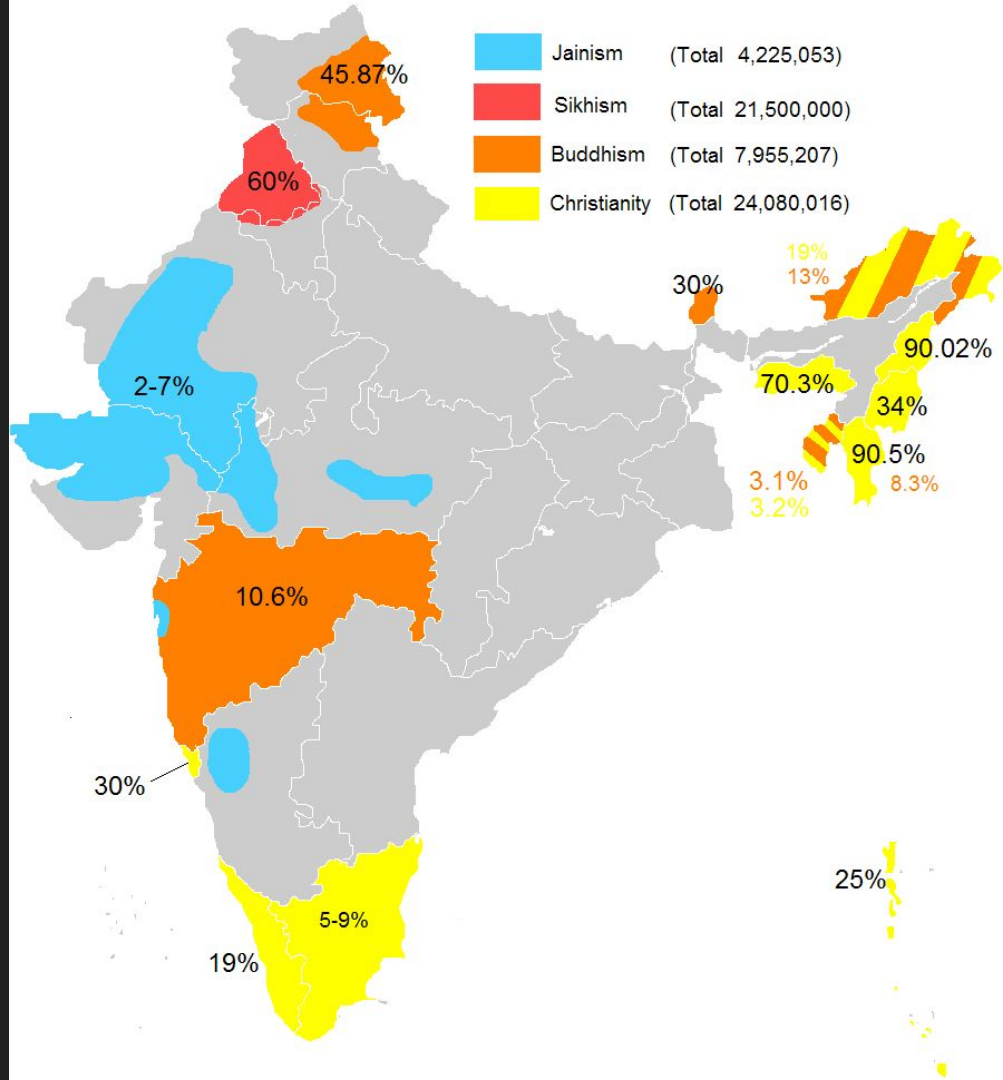
Fun fact: Lots of Muslim immigrants, even as lots of Sikhs emigrate to Greater Punjab, AKA Canada ;)



# Religious Minorities

Others: Bahá'í, Zoroastrianism  
(largest populations in the world),  
Judaism

Bahá'í, Zoroastrians from Iran  
Jews came as traders (500 BCE)



# Lotus Temple - Baha'i House of Worship





# Oldest Active Synagogue in the Commonwealth





Hindu Personal Law

Muslim Personal Law  
(Sharia law)

# Laws Based on Religion

Christian Personal Law

Uniform Civil Code

# Festivals

~ 20 Compulsory Holidays  
Includes 3 National Holidays

Holi: Festival of colors





Diwali: Festival of lights



Ganesh Chaturthi: Maharashtra

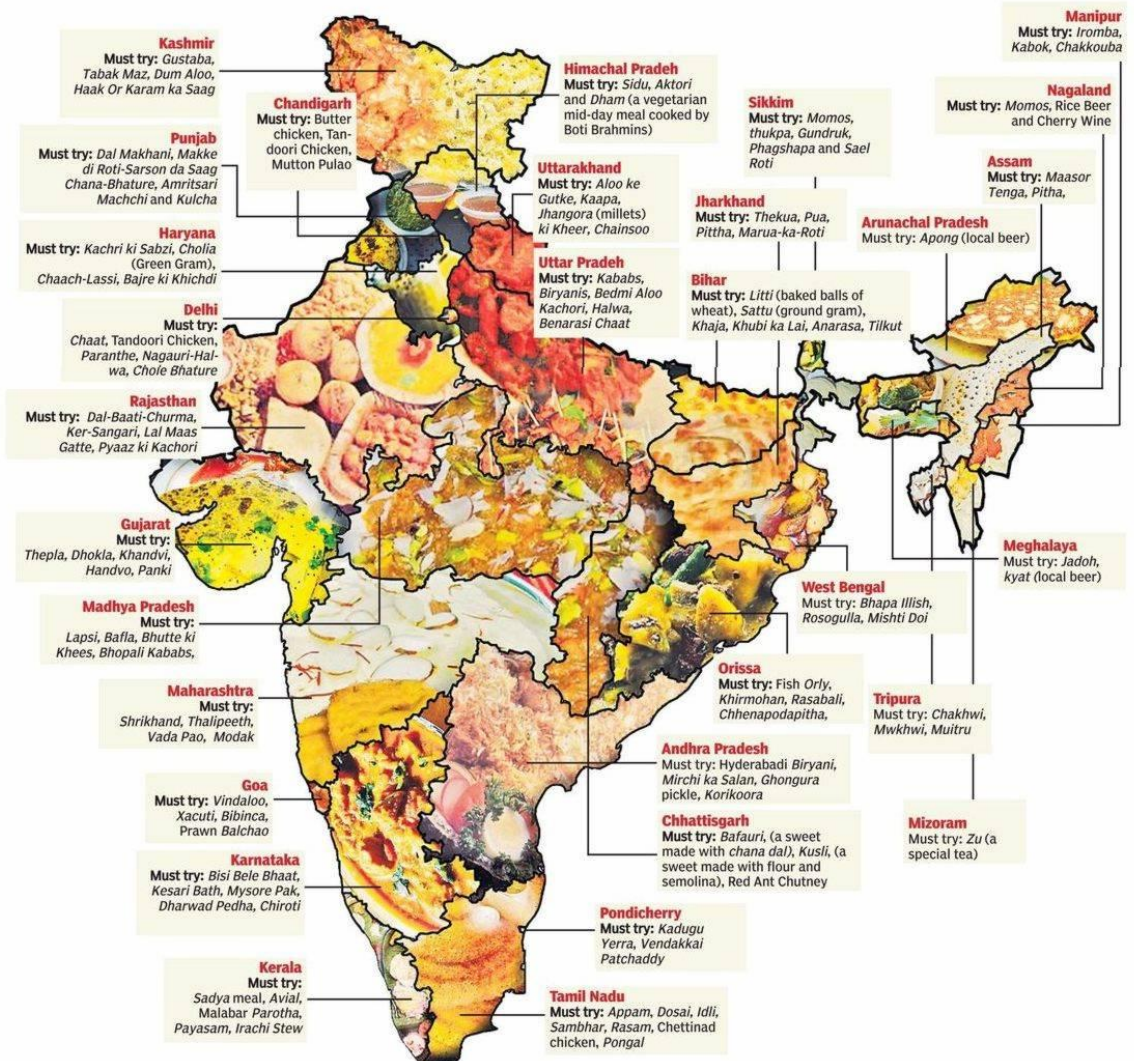


Durga Puja: West Bengal



# Cuisines of India





**Kashmir**  
Must try: *Gustaba, Tabak Maz, Dum Aloo, Haak Or Karam ka Saag*

**Chandigarh**  
Must try: *Butter chicken, Tandoori Chicken, Mutton Pulao*

**Punjab**  
Must try: *Dal Makhani, Makke di Roti-Sarson da Saag, Chana-Bhature, Amritsari Machchi and Kulcha*

**Haryana**  
Must try: *Kachri ki Sabzi, Cholia (Green Gram), Chaach-Lassi, Bajre ki Khichdi*

**Delhi**  
Must try: *Chaaf, Tandoori Chicken, Paranthe, Nagauri-Halwa, Chole Bhature*

**Rajasthan**  
Must try: *Dal-Baati-Churma, Ker-Sangari, Lal Maas Gatte, Pyaaz ki Kachori*

**Gujarat**  
Must try: *Thepla, Dhokla, Khandvi, Handvo, Panki*

**Madhya Pradesh**  
Must try: *Lapsi, Bafra, Bhutte ki Khees, Bhopali Kababs,*

**Maharashtra**  
Must try: *Shrikhand, Thalipeeth, Vada Pao, Modak*

**Goa**  
Must try: *Vindaloo, Xacuti, Bibinca, Prawn Balchao*

**Karnataka**  
Must try: *Bisi Bele Bhaat, Kesari Bath, Mysore Pak, Dharwad Pedha, Chiroti*

**Kerala**  
Must try: *Sadya meal, Avial, Malabar Parantha, Payasam, Irachi Stew*

**Himachal Pradesh**  
Must try: *Sidu, Aktori and Dham (a vegetarian mid-day meal cooked by Boti Brahmins)*

**Uttarakhand**  
Must try: *Aloo ke Gutke, Kaapa, Jhangora (millets) ki Kheer, Chainsoo*

**Uttar Pradesh**  
Must try: *Kababs, Biryani, Bedmi Aloo Kachori, Halwa, Benarasi Chaat*

**Jharkhand**  
Must try: *Thekua, Pua, Pittha, Marua-ka-Roti*

**Bihar**  
Must try: *Litti (baked balls of wheat), Sattu (ground gram), Khaja, Khubi ka Lai, Anarasa, Tilkut*

**Orissa**  
Must try: *Fish Orly, Khirmohan, Rasabali, Khenapodapitha,*

**Andhra Pradesh**  
Must try: *Hyderabad Biryani, Mirchi ka Salan, Ghongura pickle, Korikoora*

**Chhattisgarh**  
Must try: *Bafauri, (a sweet made with chana dal), Kusli, (a sweet made with flour and semolina), Red Ant Chutney*

**Pondicherry**  
Must try: *Kadugu Yerra, Vendakkai Patchaddy*

**Tamil Nadu**  
Must try: *Appam, Dosai, Idli, Sambhar, Rasam, Chettinad chicken, Pongal*

**Manipur**  
Must try: *Iromba, Kabok, Chakkouba*

**Nagaland**  
Must try: *Momos, Rice Beer and Cherry Wine*

**Assam**  
Must try: *Maasor Tenga, Pitha,*

**Arunachal Pradesh**  
Must try: *Apong (local beer)*

**Meghalaya**  
Must try: *Jadoh, kyat (local beer)*

**West Bengal**  
Must try: *Bhapa Illish, Rosogulla, Mishti Doi*

**Tripura**  
Must try: *Chakhwi, Mwkhwii, Maitru*

**Mizoram**  
Must try: *Zu (a special tea)*

# Traditional Dresses

# Colors of India



Fun fact: Matriarchal Societies?



# GARO - INDIA AND BANGLADESH

## Key Stakeholders

Property is inherited from the mother to her daughters, and it is the youngest daughter who becomes the heiress of the family.



**2 Million**

Garo population in India & Bangladesh

**Garo women**

Women can often choose their husbands, and usually enjoy equality with the men.

Thank you!



# References

1. Maps of India: <http://www.mikejarosz.ca/maps-of-india/>
2. Religion in India: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion\\_in\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_India)
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/jan/18/india-khasi-women-politics-bo-uissou>
4. Oldest Active Synagogue: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paradesi\\_Synagogue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paradesi_Synagogue)
5. Cuisines of India: <http://www.toptourguide.com/toptour-cuisine-of-india.htm>
6. Traditional Dresses in India:  
[http://image.shutterstock.com/display\\_pic\\_with\\_logo/2170109/246460966/stock-vector-happy-couple-from-different-states-of-india-in-vector-246460966.jpg](http://image.shutterstock.com/display_pic_with_logo/2170109/246460966/stock-vector-happy-couple-from-different-states-of-india-in-vector-246460966.jpg)