

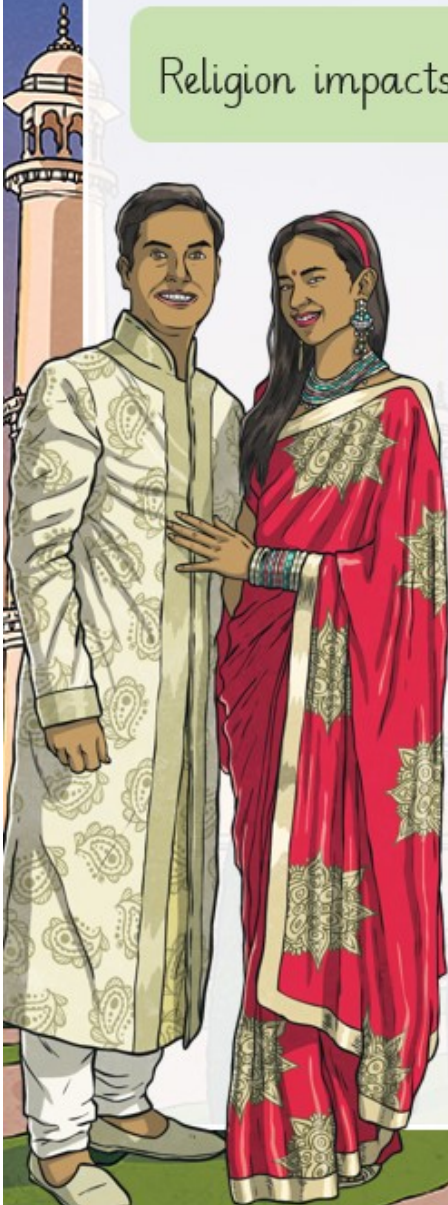
# India's Clothing

Religion impacts clothing worn by many in India.

An example of traditional clothing for women is the sari. It is a draped, robe-like dress.

Linen and silk are popular fabrics of many Indian clothes.

A dhoti is a traditionally draped cloth worn by men that resembles trousers.



# India's Languages

The official languages of India are Hindi and English.

Despite this, there are many other languages spoken across the country, including Punjabi, Bengali, Kashmiri, Tamil, Sanskrit, Urdu and many others.

Some of these languages have very unique alphabets, such as:

हिंदी

Hindi

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Punjabi

संस्कृतम्

Sanskrit

اُردُو

Urdu



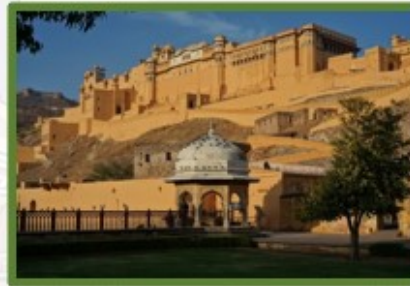
# Indian Landmarks

Choose a landmark to find out more about.

Taj Mahal



Amber Fort



Red Fort



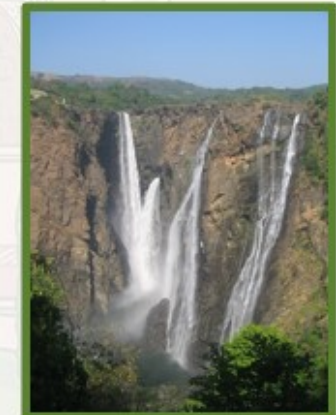
Ellora Caves



Lonar Crater



Jog Falls



# Taj Mahal



- The Taj Mahal is in Agra. It was built in 1648 by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as a burial chamber for his wife.
- The Taj Mahal is made from white marble.
- It is one of the new Seven Wonders of the World.
- It is one of the most popular tourist sites in the world, with around 7 million visitors each year.



# Amber Fort



- Amber Fort, also known as Amer Fort and Amber Palace, is a large palace built from pale yellow and pink sandstone. The main part of the fort dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, although there are parts of much older settlements nearby.
- The palace is a mix of Hindu and Mughal styles of architecture and is filled with beautifully decorated rooms.
- It is located in the north of India.

# Red Fort



- The Red Fort is a historical fort that was the main home of the Mughal emperors. It was built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century when the emperor, Shah Jahan, decided to move the capital from Agra to Delhi.
- The Red Fort is thought to have been created by the same architect as the Taj Mahal.
- Today, it is a popular tourist destination and is used as part of India's annual Independence Day celebrations on 15<sup>th</sup> August.



# Ellora Caves



- Ellora Caves are a number of rock-cut monastery caves that are filled with Hindu, Buddhist and Jain monuments and artwork. The caves date from between AD 600 to 1000 and are one of the largest groups of caves in the world.
- There are over 100 caves at the site, all of which have been dug out from basalt cliffs.
- As well as being monasteries, temples and a rest stop for pilgrims, Ellora Caves was an important area on trade routes in the region.

# Lonar Crater



- Lonar Crater, also known as Lonar Lake, is found in the west of India.
- It was made around 50,000 years ago after a meteorite hit the ground.
- The crater is around 1.8km wide and the lake is about 140 metres deep. The water in the lake has a lot of salt, although some freshwater flow into the lake.
- Because of the chemicals found in and near the lake, there is a wide range of plant and animal life. Monitor lizards, peafowl and parakeets can often be found in the area.



# Jog Falls



- Jog Falls is found in the west of India along the Sharavati river in the middle of big forests.
- It has a drop of 253 metres and during the monsoon season, the amount of falling water increases and Jog becomes one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the world.
- Nearby, there is the Linganamakki Dam, which contains a hydroelectric station which is used to make electricity.

# Indian Music

There has been Indian Classical music for over 3000 years. The music is passed down in families and is often used as part of religious worship. Instruments that are used are Sitar, Tabla and Tambura.

In the music there is the tal, or **tala**, which is a repeating rhythm pattern usually played by the tabla.

The **Raga** is a sort of a mix of scales and melodies. They are used to symbolize the time of day, season, mood or special occasion.

A **drone** is a note that's either held or repeated throughout a piece of music. It is traditionally played on a tambura.



Sitar



Tabla



Tambura

Can you see the difference between a Sitar and a Tambura?