

## What is it like to be Hindu in Britain today?



### Key Questions

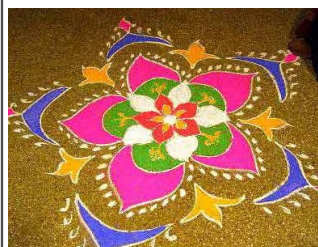
How do Hindus show their faith at home?

How do Hindus show their faith when they're together?

How do Hindus celebrate Diwali today?

What is it like to be a Hindu in Britain today?

**Hinduism** is the oldest of the world's religions. It is now practised all over the world but originated in South East Asia. It is a mix of different beliefs, cultures and traditions dating back over 4000 years.



### Special Places for Hindus

**Hindus** can worship at home or in a **mandir**. In a **mandir**, **Hindus** can perform **puja**.

Some **mandirs** are very tall buildings. **Hindus** believe it brings them closer to heaven.

In a **mandir**, there are **shrines** and lots of **murtis** for different gods. Offerings of flowers are brought to the **murtis**.

### Key Vocabulary

**Dharma**— Hindu way of life

**Mandir**—a Hindu temple

**Diwali**—Hindu festival of light

**Diya lamp**—a lamp with a flame

**Aarti**— light

**Bhajans**— Hindu songs/ music

**Murtis**—statues or images of god

**Deity**—a name for god.

**Rangoli**—a pattern join on the floor.

#### Truth Is Eternal

**Hindus** are encouraged to learn.

#### Dharma

Dharma means to do the right thing with good behaviour.

#### Reincarnation

**Hindus** believe a soul cannot be destroyed, so when a **Hindu** dies, their soul enters a new living being.

#### Moksha

Moksha is the ultimate goal. It happens when a soul stops being reincarnated and is reunited with **Brahman**.



Diwali is the 'festival of lights' and is celebrated in late autumn. Diwali celebrates good's victory over evil with lots of lights around homes. Fireworks, presents and new clothes are used to celebrate.