

Living as a Hindu



What should I already know?

The three most important Hindu gods (forms of Brahman) are:



Brahma - known as the Creator.



Vishnu - Known as the Preserver



Shiva (Siva) - known as the Destroyer.

Images



Puja is a worship ritual performed by Hindus to where they pray to one or more Gods, to host and honour a guest, or to spiritually celebrate an event.



A **Mandir** is a Hindu temple.



Vocabulary



Hinduism, Hindu



Hinduism is an Indian religion. It is the world's third-largest religion with over 1.25 billion followers.

Mandir



A Mandir is a Hindu temple. The word 'Mandir' literally means 'abode' or 'dwelling place': the place where God resides.

Puja



Family puja (worship) is performed using various special objects within the shrine.

Reincarnation



Hindus believe that each person has an individual soul (an atman) which continues to exist after the person dies. This soul is reborn or reincarnated in another body.

Quick Facts



Hinduism is over 4,000 years old, making it one of the world's oldest religions. It is made up of a variety of different religious beliefs and practices.

Central to Hinduism is the belief in a supreme God **Brahman**. Brahman is present everywhere and there is a part of Brahman in everyone.

Hindus believe that life is a cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. They also believe that the next life depends on how the previous life was lived.

Hinduism does not have a single holy book, but many ancient texts and scriptures. Hindus worship in a

	Shrine 	In most Hindu homes there is a shrine containing pictures and figures of various gods and goddesses – divine images are called <i>murtis</i>.	temple called a Mandir. Mandirs vary in size from small village shrines to large buildings, surrounded by walls.
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