

HERITAGE OF INDIA

 **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – The World Is One Family** 

DID YOU KNOW THIS BHARAT (INDIA)?



Explore 27 facts that may surprise you.

Bharat: An Ancient Civilization and Modern Democratic Union

- 1 Did you know the history behind **Bharat's** colonial names **India** and **Hindustan**?
- 2 Did you know that Bharat—India—is home to a civilization well over 5,000 years old, whose ancient traditions continue to be practiced today, making it one of the world's oldest continuously living civilizations?
- 3 Did you know that nearly eight decades ago—more than four decades before the European Union was formally established—the people of a multilingual, multiethnic, multireligious, and culturally diverse India came together to form one strong democratic Union?
- 4 Did you know that among more than 40 countries stretching from Morocco across North Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and Southeast Asia, India is virtually unmatched in sustaining a secular, constitutional, and electoral democracy across nearly eight decades, despite its extraordinary linguistic, religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity?
- 5 Did you know that Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism originated in India?

Spiritual Thought and Shared Humanity

- 6 Did you know that Hindu traditions recognize several paths toward spiritual realization—including knowledge, devotion, selfless action, meditation, and disciplined living—rather than insisting that everyone follow one identical path?
- 7 Did you know that Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam—"The World Is One Family"—is an ancient Indian teaching that asks us to look beyond narrow divisions and recognize our shared humanity?
- 8 Did you know that yoga is rooted in an extensive philosophical tradition concerned with ethical living, self-discipline, meditation, wellbeing, and harmony of body, mind, and spirit?
- 9 Did you know that seva, or selfless service, is considered an important spiritual and civic responsibility in many Indian traditions?

Mathematics, Science and Inquiry

- 10 Did you know that Indian mathematicians developed and advanced the concept of **zero** and the **decimal place-value system** that underpin modern mathematics, science, commerce, and computing?
- 11 Did you know that ancient Indian scholars made major contributions to algebra, geometry, trigonometry, astronomy, medicine, grammar, logic, and philosophy?
- 12 Did you know that more than 1,500 years ago, the Indian mathematician-astronomer **Aryabhata** described the Earth as spherical and explained the apparent movement of the heavens through the Earth's rotation?
- 13 Did you know that ancient Indian astronomers mathematically studied planetary motion, calculated the length of the year, explained eclipses, and developed methods for predicting celestial events centuries before modern telescopes?

Learn more about rich heritage of Bharat (India).

Discover our shared humanity.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

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