

### **Impression of Diverse in Indian Society**

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'Indian Culture' is the Mother of all cultures. All the regions and religions of the world have their own culture with many customs, traditions and refined qualities. It is a culture of love, respect, honoring others and humbling one's own ego so that the inner nature, which is naturally pure and modest, will shine forth. India is a unique amalgamation of cultures, religions and beliefs. Perhaps no other country of the world presents such a fascinating medley of a rich and variegated heritage that is as old as the civilization itself. Our country has a wonderful capacity of assimilating other beliefs as well as deeply influencing other thoughts and traditions. Indian culture is perfectly created out of the values that permeate its soul. India's social customs, religious and spiritual concepts, education, literature all come together to create what we call as its culture. It is also known as 'Mother of Cultures'. Music, dance, painting, sculpture and other art forms, agriculture, science, and industry all sectors trace their roots back to centuries.

Unity in diversity is unity among people without uniformity. People living in India are from various religions, casts and beliefs; however, they are living with unity and proving the fact that 'unity in diversity'. Unity in diversity means oneness in the varieties. India is a best country proving this concept for many years. India is a country where it is very clear to see unity in diversity because people of many religion, race, culture and tradition live together without affecting each others feelings and believes to their religion. Unity in diversity focuses on the existence of unity even after lots of differences of cultural, social, physical, linguistic, religious, political, ideological, psychological, etc

The strength of Indian culture has always been in its broad-heartedness, its ability to accept and assimilate other thoughts wholeheartedly. Giving respect and reverence to elders is the cornerstone of Indian culture. Our guest is our God; it is a very common cultural trend of this country.

India is a vast nation with a federal structure. There are 29 states and seven union territories that present a veritable potpourri of different cultures, languages, habits and religions that make Indian culture stand out in the whole world. Unity in diversity is the strength of Indian culture. Many people living in India write in Devanagari script. In fact, it is a misconception that the majority of people in India speak Hindi. Though many people speak Hindi in India, 59 percent of India residents speak something other than Hindi, according to The Times of India. Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil and Urdu are some other languages spoken in the country.

India is identified as the birthplace of Hinduism and Buddhism, the third and fourth largest religions. About 84 percent of the population identifies as Hindu, according to the "Handbook of Research on Development and Religion," edited by Matthew Clarke (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2013). There are many variations of Hinduism, and four predominant sects — Shaiva, Vaishnava, Shakteya and Smarta. About 13 percent of Indians are Muslim, making it one of the largest Islamic nations in the world. Christians and Sikhs make up a small percentage of the population, and there are even fewer Buddhists and Jains, according to the "Handbook."

The most well-known example of Indian architecture is the Taj Mahal, built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan to honor his third wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It combines elements from Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Indian architectural styles. India also has many ancient temples.

Indian clothing is closely identified with the colorful silk saris worn by many of the country's women. A traditional piece of clothing for men is the dhoti, an unstitched piece of cloth that is tied around the waist and legs. Men also wear a kurta, a loose shirt that is worn about knee-length. For special occasions, men wear a sherwani or achkan, which is a long coat that with a collar having no lapel. It is buttoned up to the collar and down to the knees. A shorter version of a sherwani is called a Nehru jacket. It is named after Jawaharlal Nehru, India's prime minister from 1947 to 1964, but Nehru never wore a Nehru jacket. He preferred the achkan, according to Tehelka, an Indian newspaper. The Nehru jacket was primarily marketed to Westerners.

In Celebration, Diwali is the largest and most important holiday to India, according to National Geographic. It is a five-day festival known as the festival of lights because of the lights lit during the celebration to symbolize the inner light that protects them from spiritual darkness. Holi, the festival of colors, also called the festival of love, is popular in the spring. The country also celebrates Republic Day (Jan. 26), Independence Day (Aug. 15) and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday (Oct. 2).

In food habits too, India presents a mind-blowing variety: North Indian, South Indian, Mughlai, Continental, etc. The different festivals that are celebrated in the country add to the peaceful co-existence of people of different faiths living on the country. Indian culture is actually an outcome of a continuous synthesis of several external influences in the course of its long and eventful journey. The Indian youths feel proud to be connected to diverse cultural trends and often opt to be a part of showcasing the Indian cultural trend in their schools, colleges and institutions. The wonder that is India has managed to survive the ravages of time, several external aggression and centuries of foreign rule. This even strengthens my thought and interest of knowing more about Indian culture.

Being the citizens of this mesmerizing country, we all should feel proud to be born in this cradle of civilization. It is a rare experience that India amongst all countries gives us. A perfect blend of diverse customs, beliefs, traditions and what not. Along with being a part of this wonderful culture we should make sure that we continue to create its awareness amongst the coming generation as well. Our message is the first thing that will create the impact in their life and which will further lead to enrichment of Indian culture.

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