

India.

India, which is located in South Asia, is the seventh largest country in the world. It has a population of more than one billion people making it the second largest populated country in the world, after China. The capital city of India is New Delhi, and the currency used is Rupee. If you look carefully at the map, you will see that India has a number of bordering countries, including: Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Burma.

Festivals

There are lots of festivals in India but the biggest festival of the year is the Hindu festival of Diwali, also known as the festival of light. Diwali is India's most important festival as it celebrates the New Year. The festival lasts for five days and people decorate their homes with lights, oil lamps (called diyas) and candles. The lights are to encourage Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and good fortune, to come into their homes. Hindu people believe that Lakshmi will bring wealth and good fortune into their homes. Another way that they try to encourage Lakshmi to come into their homes is by drawing beautiful, colourful patterns on the ground. These patterns are called Rangoli patterns.