

HINDU FUNERALS

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Civil Funeral Celebrant, Nottingham

NATIONAL MEMORIAL
ARBORETUM

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AREA OF WESTERN EUROPE

IN SQUARE MILES

UK	94,249	Denmark	16,633
France	211,000	Belgium	11,781
Germany	132,784	Luxembourg	999
Spain	194,882	Netherlands	15,892
Portugal	35,513	Switzerland	15,943
Italy	116,319	Ireland	27,136
Sweden	173,780	Austria	7,575
Norway	149,158		
		Total	1,203,418 SM



AREA OF WESTERN EUROPE

1.203,418 SQUARE MILES

AREA OF INDIA

1.237,061 SQUARE MILES

1500 OF MILES OF HIMALAYAS

4600 COASTAL MILES

Major religions of the world

1. Christianity 33%
2. Islam 21%
3. Non-religious 16%
4. Hinduism 14%
5. Buddhism 6%
6. Chinese traditional 6%
7. Sikhism 0.36%
8. Judaism 0.22%

Religions in India

1. Hindus 80.45%
2. Muslims 13.43%
3. Christians 2.3%
4. Sikhs 1.86.0%
5. Buddhists 1.5%
6. Jains 0.41%
7. Baha'i
8. Zoroastrianism
9. Judaism

Religions in the UK, 2011

1. Christian 59.3% (33.2 M)
2. None 25.1% (25 M)
3. Muslim 4.8% (4.8 M)
4. Hindu 1.5% (1.5 M)
5. Sikh 0.8% (423,000)
6. Jewish 0.5% (263,000)
7. Buddhist 0.4% (248,000)

RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS



BASIS OF INDIAN RELIGIONS

‘REINCARNATION’



MERGE WITH GOD
MOKSHA/NIRVANA

Hinduism

- 1 billion followers in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and around the world (UK, US, CAN, WI, SA)
- No single founder, probably 6000 years old!
- No single 'Holy book' many 'Holy' scriptures
- Diversity in the extreme
- God: devotion to a single God while accepting the existence of other Gods
- Hindu trinity (Bramha, Vishnu & Shiva)
- Visiting temples not obligatory
- Religious signs includes swastika, om, lotus, chakra
- Rituals: worshipping at dawn after bathing – lighting a lamp – offerings – *tilak*, *bandhan*...

OM



HINDUISM

- GAIN MERIT THROUGH CHARITY
- SACRIFICE
- BIRTHS, WEDDINGS & CREMATION
- PILGRIMAGE NOT MANDATORY
- NO CONVERSIONS POSSIBLE

HINDU CASTES

>1500, BC, 2000 sub-castes

- **BRAHMIN:** TEACHER, PRIEST, COOK **V**
- **KSHATRIAS;** RULER & WARRIORS
- **VAISHIAS** (Largest): BUSINESSMEN,
TRADERS, LAND LORDS & ARTISANS **V**
- **SHUDRAS:** SERVICE, FARM LABOUR
- **UNTOUCHABLE:** SEWAGE WORKERS ROAD
CLEANERS, TANNERS

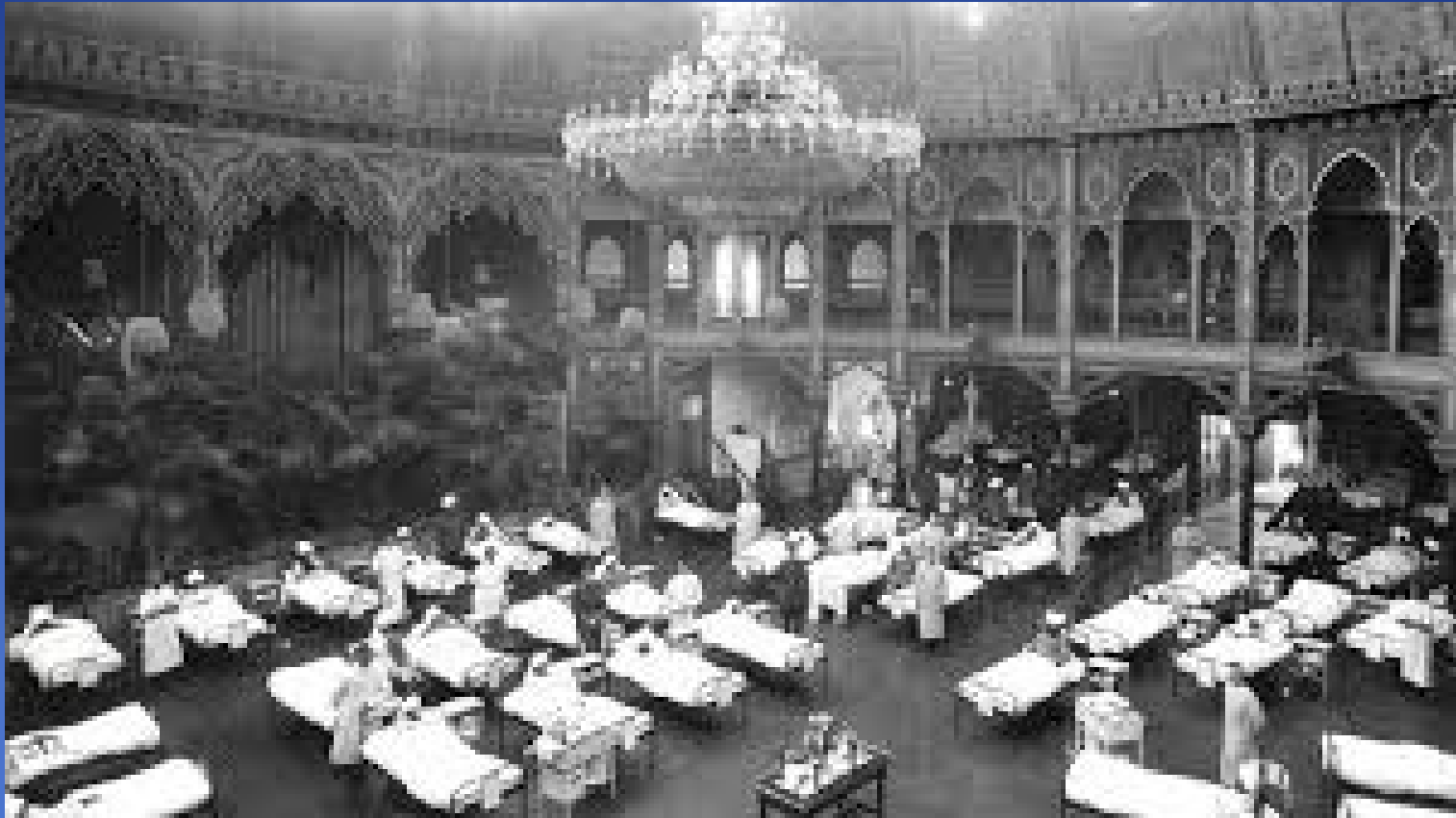
DUTIES OF A HINDU

- **BRAHMACHARYA** :Student, Celibacy
- **GRIHASTHA**: Vivah, karma, Artha
- **VARNAPRASTHA**: Retirement, Gradual Detachment
- **SANYASA**: Moksha, Nirvana
- **CREMATION** : Open air funeral pyre



YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS
YOU

The KITCHENER HOSPITAL



WORLD WAR 1

1,524,187 INDIANS FOUGHT FOR THE *king emperor*

74,191 DEATHS AND 69,214 WOUNDED

5875 *Never identified in trenches*

MEMORIALS IN NEUVE CHAPELLE

MENIN GATE YPRES

CHATTRI AT PATCHAM, *brighton*

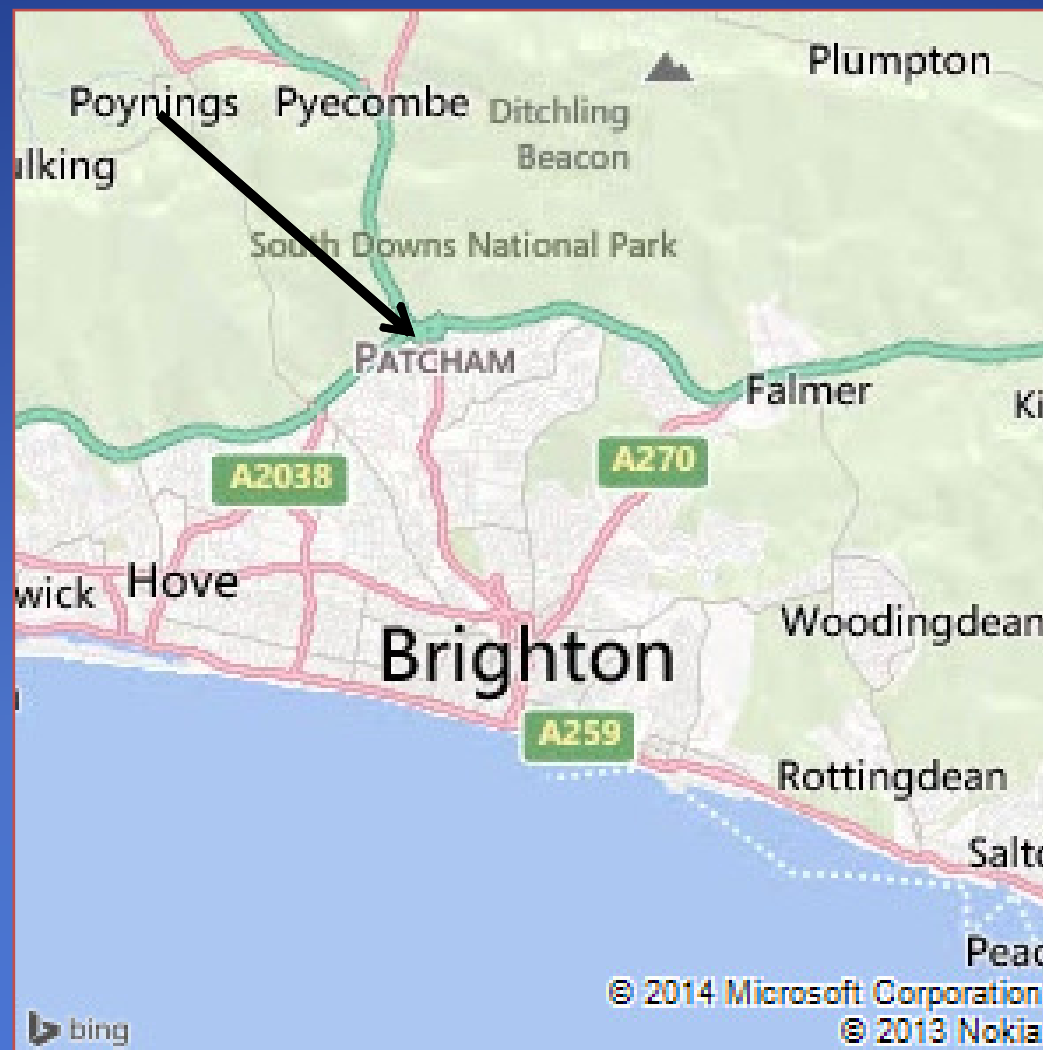
Basra

INDIA GATE NEW DELHI



BATTLE HONOURS
12 VICTORIA CROSSES
7,000 MEDALS
AWARDED TO INDIANS
FOR GALLANTRY

PATCHAM



HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES 1921

dedication of the indian chattri on the downs



Inscription on the plaque in urdu, hindi & english

“To the memory of all indian soldiers who gave their lives for their king-emperor in the great war, this monument, erected on the site of the funeral pyre where the hindus and sikhs who died in hospital at brighton passed through the fire is in grateful admiration and brotherly affection dedicated”

CREMATION

- SIR HENRY THOMPSON 1885 QV's SURGEON (H)
- 1968 CREMATIONS EXCEEDED BURIALS IN UK
- CURRENTLY >70% in 250 CREMATORIA
- 1963 THE POPE LIFTED THE BAN ON CREMATIONS
- HINDUS, SIKHS & BUDDHISTS CREMATED #DG
- FORBIDDEN BY ORTHODOX JEWS AND MUSLIMS

HINDU FUNERALS

(Antim Sanskar, Antayesti)

- AT DEATH: BODY TRANSFERRED
- HOLY WATER IN THE MOUTH
- HOLY BATH (Abhisegam) WITH WATER, MILK, YOGURT HONEY AND GHEE
- PLAIN WHITE CLOTHES (RED FOR A WIFE)
- LIT CANDLE & FAVOURITE DEITY
- FOLDED HANDS ON CHEST
- FLORAL GARLANDS, VIBHUTI of CHANDAN ASH
- BIG TOES TIED TOGETHER
- WHITE SHEET

GAYATRI MANTRA

*'AUM BHUR BHUVA SWAH, TAT SAVITUR VARENYAM
BHARGO DEVASYA DHIMAHI, DHIYO YO NAH PROCHODAYAT'*

-Revealed to Bhramarishi Vishwamitra

GOD, CREATOR OF TERRASTRIAL, ASTRAL AND CELESTIAL WORLDS
THE CREATOR DIVINE LIGHT AND LIFE,
FROM WHOM ALL PROCEED, TO WHOM ALL MUST RETURN
WHOM WE INVOKE TO DIRECT OUR UNDERSTANDINGS
ARIGHT IN OUR PROGRESS TOWARD HIS HOLY SEAT

-Sir. William Jones 1807

*'O Supreme light, Lead us from Untruth to Truth, from Darkness to
Light and from Death to Immortality.'*

TRANSPORTATION OF THE BODY

- HOLY BASIL, MARIGOLD & ROSE GARLANDS
- A BAND MAY LEAD THE PROCESSION
- CASKET OR STRETCHER CARRIED ON SHOULDERS
- FEET FIRST
- THERE ARE COMPANIES WHO ARRANGE SHIPMENT OF BODIES/ASHES TO INDIA

THE CEREMONY

- WHITE ATTIRE
- BANKS OF A RIVER / CREMATORIA
- OPEN AIR
- ELDEST SON IS THE '*KARTA*'
- WALKS AROUND THE PYRE 3 TIMES, ANTICLOCKWISE (BODY STAYS ON LEFT)
- SPRINKLES HOLY WATER AND CHANTS MANTRA
- PYRE LIT BY THE SON

CHILD FUNERAL

- SMALL BABY: WATER BURIAL
- MOTHER AND BABY: TOGETHER
- PRE-PUBERTAL CHILD: BURIAL

HINDU PHILOSOPHY ON DEATH

- SOUL DEPARTS AT DEATH, WHICH TRULY REPRESENTED THE PERSON.
- THE BODY HAS NO SIGNIFICANCE & THEREFORE, NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO PRESERVE IT.
- THE BODY IS AN EMPTY SHELL, NO MONUMENT IS ERECTED FOR IT.
- ‘SOUL IS A SPIRIT; SWORD CANNOT PIERCE, FIRE CANNOT BURN, WATER CANNOT MELT, AIR CANNOT DRY.’ –*Bhagwat Gita*

HINDU PHILOSOPHY ON DEATH

- ORGAN DONATION: NO HINDU LAW FORBIDS IT
- EMBALMING IS ACCEPTABLE
- SUN MUST NOT SET TWICE BEFORE CREMATION, WHICH HAS TO BE IN THE OPEN
- SOUL IS FREE, HOLY, PURE & PERFECT

POST CREMATION

- ALL BATHE & CHANGE CLOTHES
- WHITE IS THE COLOUR OF MOURNING
- MOURNING PERIOD 13 DAYS
- WHITE SHEETS OVER CARPETS & FURNITURE
- KITCHEN CLOSED
- VEGETARIAN MEALS BY FRIENDS IN A ROTA
- GARLANDED PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DECEASED
- A LIT CANDLE/LAMP
- COLLECT ASHES THE NEXT DAY FOR IMMERSION IN THE GANGES!

MOURNING PERIOD

- FAMILY RECEIVES VISITORS
- GARLANDED PHOTO ON DISPLAY
- TALK AND REMINISCE ABOUT THE DEPARTED
- CHARITY GIVING TO ORPHANAGE/SCHOOL
- 'HAVAN' 4TH AND 13TH DAY
- SHEETS REMOVED
- ANNUAL MEMORIAL PRAYERS & FEED THE POOR

SIKHISM

- FOUNDER GURU NANAK 1469-1539
- ONKAR – ONE CREATOR
- 3 PILLARS: MEDITATION, HONEST EARNING, SHARING & SERVICE
- 5 BELIEFS: 1 CREATOR, 10 GURUs, GRANTH SAHIB, TEACHINGS OF GURUs, RITES OF INITIATION
- CONVERSIONS, DEFEND THE OPPRESSED, CONDEMN CIRCUMCISION, IDOL WORSHIP, FASTING & HALAL
- NO HIERARCHY IN CLERGY
- EQUALITY OF SEXES



SIKH FUNERALS (*Antum Sanskar*)

**A CELEBRATION OF COMPLETION
OF LIFE & RESIGNATION TO THE
WILL OF THE CREATOR.**

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE
REUNION OF THE SOUL WITH IT'S
MAKER.**

SIKHS

- 10 DAYS OF MOURNING AND PRAYERS, NO CANDLES
- BODY BATHED & CLOTHED IN 5 Ks
- CREMATION
- ASHES BURIED OR IMMERSED
- VEGETARIAN MEAL
- WIDOWS CAN REMARRY

Sikhism

- No Heaven or Hell
- Reincarnation
- Work & Worship
- Charity & Service
- Use Weapons if necessary, to defend rights of worship (of all religions)

BUDDHISM

- Founder Buddha 563 – 480BC
- No God
- Re-incarnation
- The middle way
- The 3 jewels: buddha, dharma and sangha
- 4 noble truths
 1. There is suffering in life
 2. There is cause of suffering – Desire
 3. There is cessation of suffering – Nirvana
 4. There is a Buddhist path to Nirvana

Zoroastrianism

- Founder Zarathustra in Iran
6000BC
- Responsibility of every person to
choose between good and evil
- 5 daily prayers
- Fire worship
- Towers of silence

FINALLY, MY LAST WISH !



MEDICAL SCHOOL



CREMATION



ASHES UNDER A 'ROSE BUSH

THANKYOU

