



## **India: Raksha Bandhan/Rakhi**

### **Pre-visit Activity: Background Reading**

India is a country located on the continent of Asia. Thousands of years ago, the first people to live in that part of Asia settled near the Indus River which flows from the huge Himalaya Mountains. These people developed the Hindu religion. Much of India's culture is based on the Hindu religion. Culture means the way of life of a group of people. Celebrations are part of culture.

Raksha Bandhan is a celebration that is based on a Hindu legend. The legend tells of a woman tying a thread (rakhi) around her brother's wrist before he went to a battle. The man was not hurt so the rakhi became a symbol of protection. Today Raksha Bandhan, or Rakhi is a day to celebrate brothers and sisters. The sister makes a beautiful bracelet for her brother. On the day of Rakhi, she ties it around his wrist as a symbol of her love for him. The brother then promises to protect his sister for life. They eat special food and enjoy the day together.

The Rakhi festival started in India, but has spread around the world as people from India move and share their culture in different countries.

Source:

<http://www.globalroadwarrior.com/#mode=country&regionId=66&uri=country-content&nid=20.38&key=facts-holidays>



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### Pre-visit Activity: Background Reading

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Draw a picture of a sister tying a bracelet around her brother's wrist.

2. What is culture? \_\_\_\_\_
3. In which country did Rakhi begin? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Rakhi is based on a legend from which religion? \_\_\_\_\_



## India: Raksha Bandhan/ Rakhi

### Pre-visit Activity: Background Reading Activity **KEY**

1. Draw a picture of a sister tying a bracelet around her brother's wrist.



2. What is culture? **The way of life of a group of people**
3. In which country did Rakhi begin? **India**
4. Rakhi is based on a legend from which religion? **Hindu**