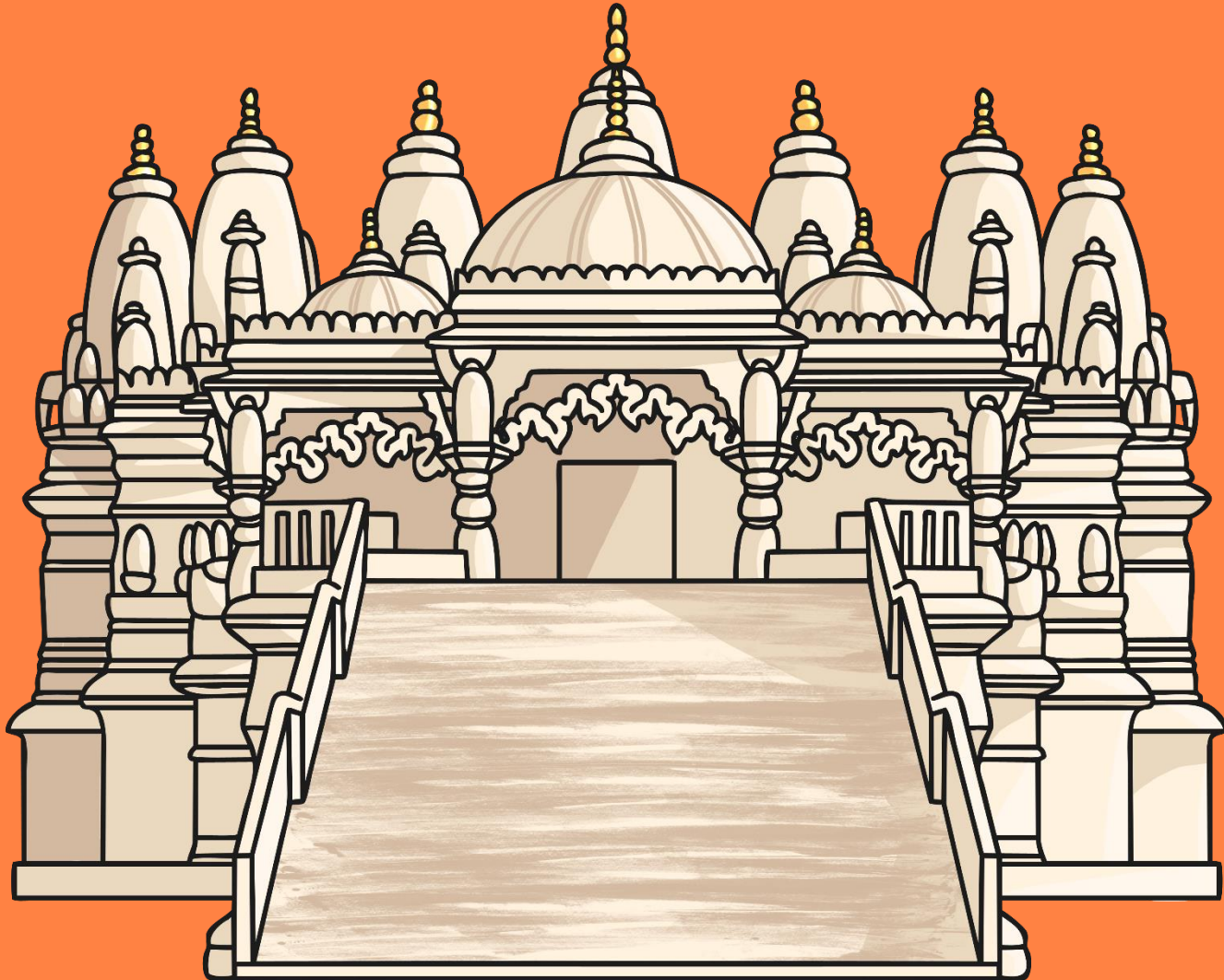
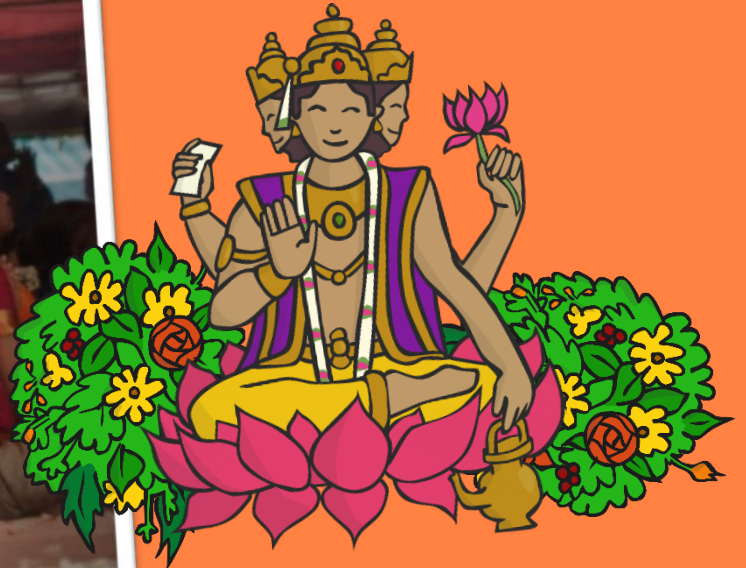


Places of Worship



Hindu Mandirs

Why do people go to a Hindu Mandir?



Worship, or 'puja', takes place here. Hindus can come at any time to be peaceful, pray and sing religious songs.

Each mandir is dedicated to a god and inside will be a shrine to that god. Offerings or 'prasad' such as flowers, fruit, water, milk, nuts or sweets are made. Incense is burned to make the temple feel special and during worship, Hindus chant the names of their favourite gods and goddesses.



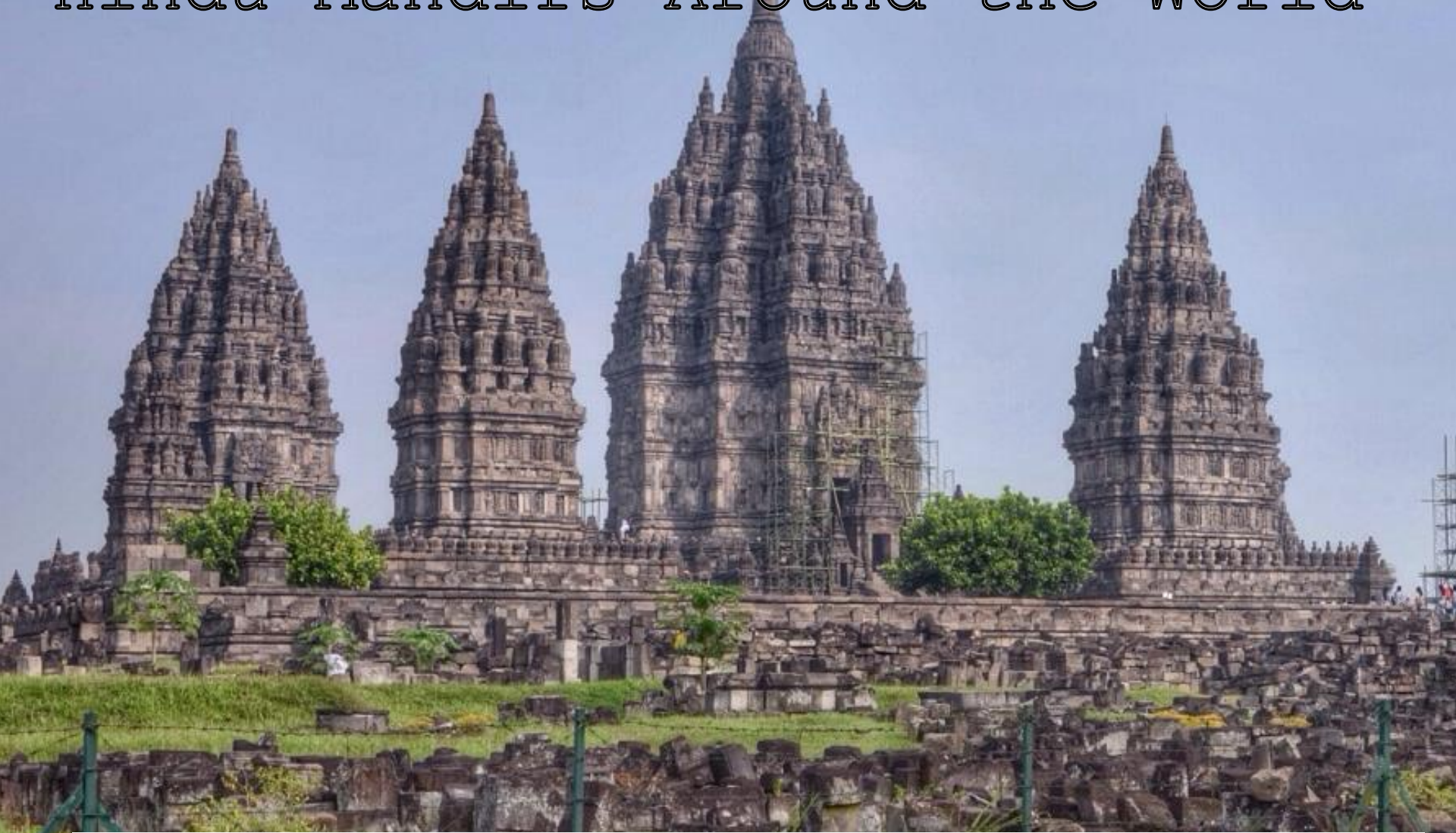
Worshipping at the mandir is a special time to be together with other Hindus.

Mandirs are seen as a place where heaven meets the earth so many mandirs are tall buildings, like mountains reaching up into the sky.

Showing Respect

- Before entering the Mandir you must have a wash, make sure you are wearing clean clothes and remove your shoes.
- You must make offerings to the gods.
- Bow to show respect to the gods.

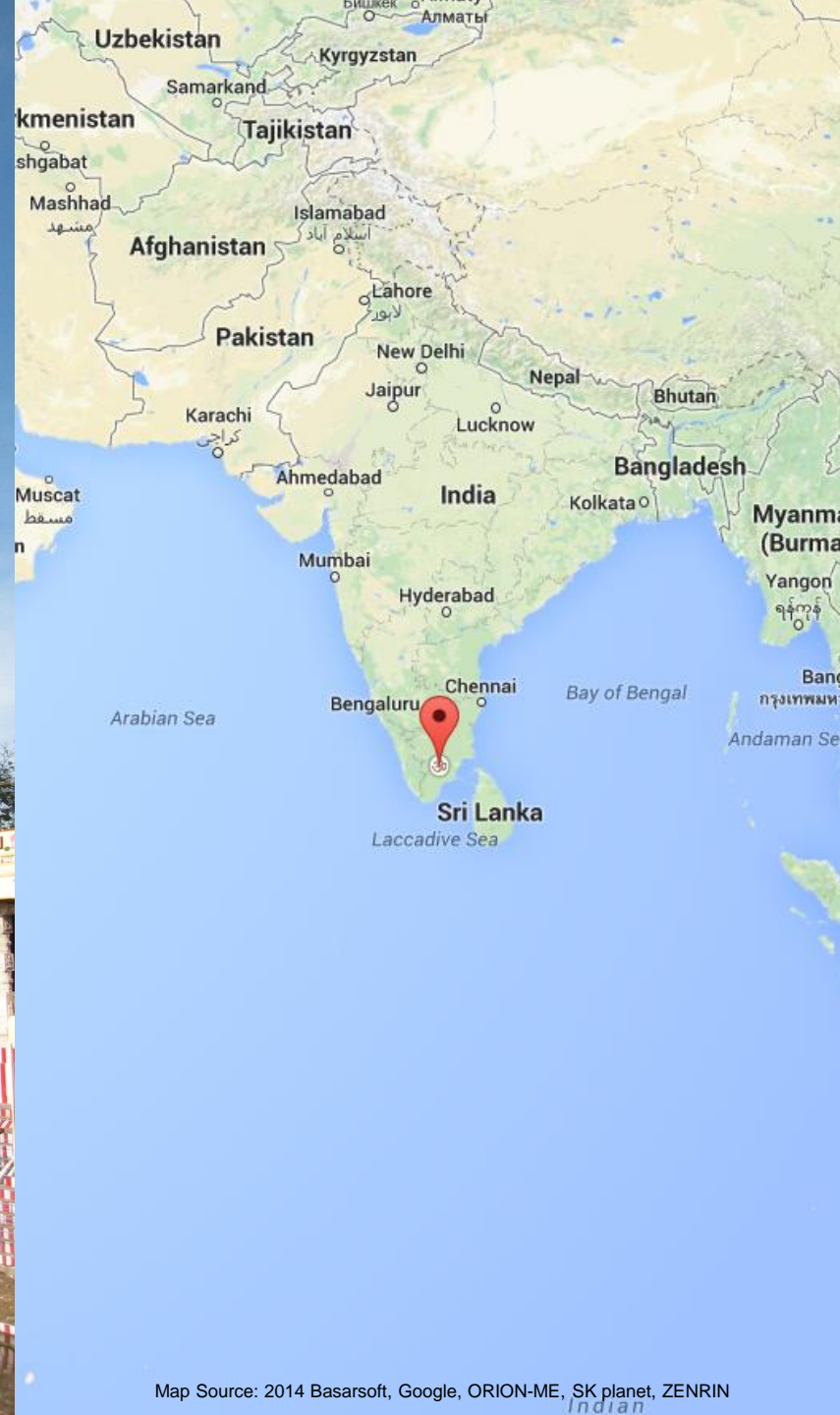
Hindu Mandirs Around the World



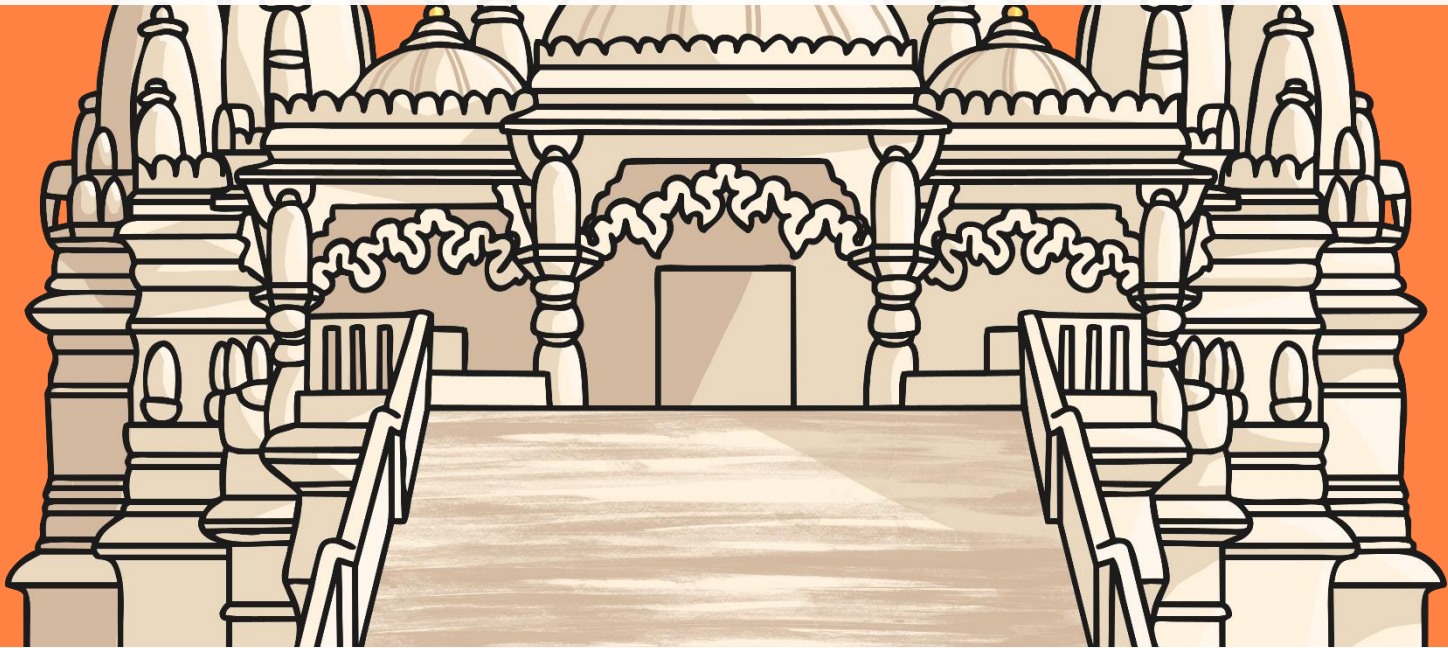
Prambanan is the largest temple in Indonesia.



The Meenakshi Amman Temple is one of the most important Indian Hindu temples with 14 towers!



The Sree Ganapathy Temple, in London, is a busy and exciting place. As well as being used for worship, birth, wedding and death ceremonies, it is also a place where visitors can go and discuss and strengthen their faith, take part in meditation classes and yoga.



At a Hindu temple, different parts of the building have a special meaning, for example, the central shrine inside the mandir represents the heart of the Hindu worshipper, and if the temple has a tower this symbolises a connection with heaven.



Your task

Why do you think it is important to many Hindus
to be part of this faith family?

Do you have any other questions about Hindu mandirs?
Do some of your own research.

