Hinduismo

Hinduism in Portugal

Susana (2001) De Moçambique a Portugal. Reinterpretações identitárias do Hinduismo em viagem, Lisboa, Fundação Oriente, 373 pags. Trovão, Susana; Rosales

There is relatively little history of active practice of Hinduism in Portugal. Presently there is a Hindu community of approximately 19,471 or 0.22% Hindus in Portugal, which largely traces its origins to Indians who emigrated from the former Portuguese colonies of Lusophone Africa, particularly from Mozambique, and from the former colony of Diu, Daman and Goa and other possessions in Portuguese India.

From the mid 1990s on there was an influx of Hindus of Nepalese origin in Portugal as a result of labour migration originated from that South Asian country. Also since the 1990s it is possible to find in Lisbon a small Hare Krishna community, consisting mainly of Caucasians of Portuguese origin, but also Brazilian and devotees from other European countries.

Hindus in Portugal are, according to the Indian Embassy in Lisbon, mainly Gujaratis (Gujarati is taught at the Hindu Community Cultural Centre, in Lisbon), Punjabis and Goans. The majority of the Hindus live in the capital city, Lisbon, but it is also possible to find some Hindu-Gujarati families living in Oporto.[1]

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