Hindus and Hindu Traditions in Europe.  
A Bibliography on the Hindu-European Diasporas

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1st version  
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1. General overviews and surveys

2. Geographical studies

2.1. Great Britain
2.2. The Netherlands
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2.5. France
2.6. Switzerland
2.7. Denmark and Scandinavia
2.8. Austria, Belgium, Italy
2.9. Countries of Eastern Europe

3. Table of estimated numbers of Hindus in European countries in the mid-1990s

Note:
Emphasis is laid on scholarly historical studies focusing on immigrant Hindus living in Europe. So-called Hindu-related groups as ISKCON (Hare Krishnas), Sri Chinmoy, Osho movement, Transcendental Meditation (TM), Brahma Kumaris and others are not dealt with in detail here. As it is hardly possible to trace and list all published accounts, especially with regard to the U.K., sometimes only the most important and recent studies, which refer to earlier titles, are included. A few university theses are listed separately at the end of each country related section. Some entries are accompanied by a (subjective) comment. Any recommendations and suggestions of further titles are highly appreciated.

1. General overviews and surveys


Vertovec, Steven, "Comparative Issues in the Hindu Diaspora", in: *Diaspora*, 7, 2, 1998. [very instructive and well based; contains also a comparison of specific diasporic patterns i

2. Geographical studies

2.1. United Kingdom
[As a wealth of studies exists with regard to South Asians and Hindus in the United Kingdom, the reader is advised to consult also the detailed bibliographies in H. Kanitkar 1987 and M. Nye 1995]


**Baumann, Gerd**, *Contesting Culture: Discourses of Identity in Multi-Ethnic London*: Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1996 [superb analysis of London Southall's ethnic-religious 'communities', among them Hindus; instructive points pertaining to the notions of "culture" and "community"].


Brear, A.D., "The Authority of Pramukh Swami within the Swaminarayan Hindu Mission", *Diskus*, 4, 2, 1996 (http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb11/religionswissenschaft/journal/diskus/)


Desai, Rashmi, *Indian Immigrants in Britain*, London: Oxford University Press 1963. [one of the earliest accounts of Hindus and Hinduism in Britain, focusing on politics, economy and accommodation]


Firth, Shirley, "Death, Dying and Bereavement among British Hindus", in: *Religion Today*, 5, 1/2, 1988, pp. 4-7.


Knott, Kim, "Contemporary Theological Trends in the Hare Krishna Movement", in: *Diskus* 1, 1, 1993 (http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb11/religionswissenschaft/journal/diskus/).


Logan, Penny, "Practising Hinduism: The Experience of Gujarati Adults and Children in Britain", unpubl. report of the Thomas Coram Research Unit at the Institute of Education, University of London.


Vertovec, Steven, "Community and Congregation in London Hindu Temples: Divergent Trends", in: *New Community*, 18, 2, 1992, pp. 251-264. [outline of three different modes as how a temple takes importance for a local Hindu community, not all emphazise a congregational style; instructive study]


University theses

[Very many M.Phil. and Ph.D. theses have been carried out since the 1970s, many of which have become published or condensed in articles or chapters in edited books, see above]

Bryant, Margaret Teifion, "A Way to God. A Study of some of the Beliefs and Practices of Hindus in Leicester and Leicestershire", M.Phil. thesis, University of Leicester 1983 [detailed, although unsystematic phenomenological account; many illustrative and lively pictures; good documentation of actual Hindu life in Leicester in early 1980s; no generalisation or theoretical contextualisation]


2.2. The Netherlands


van der Burg, Corstiaan J. G.; Damsteeg, Th.; Autar, Kr. (eds.), Hindustanen in Nederland, Apeldoorn 1990.

van der Veer, Peter, "Hoe bestendig is ‘de eeuwige religie’? Enkele vragen rond de organisatie van het Surinaams Hindoeïsme", in: P. van Gelder et al. (eds.), Bonoeman, rasta's en andere Surinamers,


2.3. Germany

Dessai, Elisabeth, *Hindus in Deutschland*, Moers: Aragon 1994, 252 p. [unsystematic documentation of Hindu activities in Germany by way of interviews and examples of phenomena; on Hindus from India (35.000), Sri Lanka (Tamil, 42.000), Afganistan (5.000); too sketchy and impressionistic]

Evangelische Akademie Bad Boll (ed.), *Indische Wurzeln - Deutsche Heimat*, (a seminar for young adults in June 1995), Protokolldienst 15/96, Bad Boll: Ev. Akademie Bad Boll, 30 p. [various brief essays of first meeting of second generation Indians in Germany]


University theses


2.4. Portugal


Santos, Isabel Almeida, "Começar de Novo", in: Diário de Noticias Magazin, 02.01.1994.

2.5. France

Nothing traced up to know. Hints are highly welcome.

2.6. Switzerland

MacDowell, Christopher: A Tamil asylum diaspora: Sri Lankan migration, settlement and politics in Switzerland, Providence, RI et al.: Berghahn 1996. [mainly a socio-political account and analysis; for the veneration of the Black Madonna at Einsiedeln by Hindu and Christian Tamils, see pp. 232-236]

2.7. Denmark and Scandinavia

Hole, Elisabeth, "Symbolism and Ethnicity Among Women in a Small Diaspora Community", paper presented at the international conference ‘The Hindu Diaspora’, 22.-23.08.1997, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada. [on Hindu community in Sweden, the impact of having no temple, on tradition retention].


University theses


2.8. Austria, Belgium, Italy

Weikmann, Martin, "InderInnen: Ein Straßenfest im Wohnzimmer", in Stenner, Christian (ed.), Fremde Heimat Graz, Graz: Styria 1995, pp. 94-102. [essayistically on the about 70 Indian citizens living in Graz; portraying shortly separate people (students, owner of an Indian restaurant)]

2.9. Countries of Eastern Europe


**3. Table of estimated numbers of Hindus in European countries in the mid-1990s**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Hindus</th>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom:</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>58 Mill.</td>
<td>0,76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands:</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>15 Mill.</td>
<td>0,66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany:</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>81 Mill.</td>
<td>0,08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal:</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>10 Mill.</td>
<td>0,15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France:</td>
<td>80,000 (?)</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>56 Mill.</td>
<td>0,14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland:</td>
<td>3-4,000</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7 Mill.</td>
<td>0,06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark:</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 Mill.</td>
<td>0,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway:</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5 Mill.</td>
<td>0,05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden:</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9 Mill.</td>
<td>0,03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland:</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5 Mill.</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe:</td>
<td>very few</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

United Kingdom: 630,000 740 58 Mill. 1,1
Germany: 100,000 100 81 Mill. 0,12

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