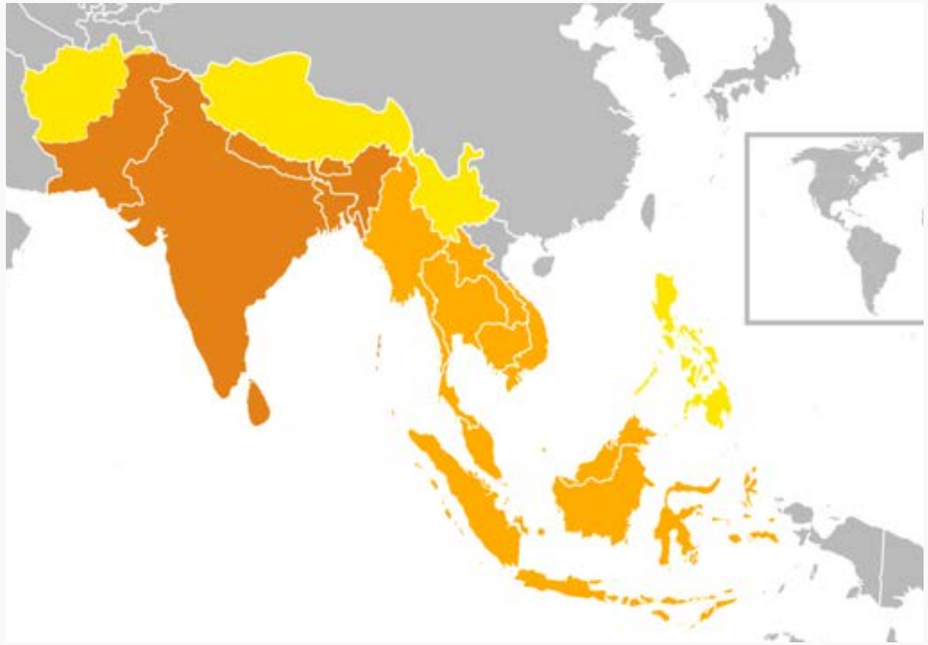
Law Enforcement Guide to People from South Asia

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Some Points to Think About



- More than 80,000 people of Asian origin live in Utah
  - Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Vietnamese and people from the Indian Subcontinent
    - Sometimes called South Asia
      - Includes India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Malaysia, Singapore, Burma, Fiji,

"Asian" is not an all encompassing term.

When saying "Asian", which face do you think of??



Differences in Asian Cultures

- Several languages and many dialects
- Food and clothing variations
- Name Structure
    - Given name, "American" name, official name, name among friends, etc.
- Many Religions

Food



Language



Common Threads Among Asian Cultures



- Education is typically a high priority
- Tend to be financially responsible
    - They save for the future
- They highly respect their family, especially elder members
- Will celebrate holidays with family

Religion of South Asian Origin

- Hindu
  - More individualistic and less formal than Christianity, Islam, or Judaism
- Sikh
  - More individualistic and less formal than Christianity, Islam, or Judaism
- Muslim
- Buddhist
- Jain
- Christian
  - Including Roman Catholic, LDS, etc.

Hindu





- Congregational worship is not required
  - Prayer is personal and typically done at home
    - Usually there will be a shrine at home for at home prayer
    - Solace or prayer are usually teachings learned in the home
  - Family traditions, obligations, and beliefs are more important than going to Temple
- There is not one holy book
  - A family will typically adopt one teacher or guru's sayings
    - These saying become very important within that family

Sikh





- Traditionally prayer is offered as a group at a Sikh temple
- Men do not cut their hair
  - It is neatly groomed and kept under a turban or head bandana
  - Beards are often placed inside a net
- Sikh's are expected to carry certain symbolic items
  - They are typically a smaller version
    - They may carry an iron bangle, a knife representing a sword, a comb, etc.
- Community service is part of their worship
  - They offer food to anyone who comes into the temple

Muslim and Buddhist Places of Worship in UT





Refugees from Asia

- Refugees who have grown up in refugee camps have certain traits
  - They may lack a moral sense
    - They were expected to fend for themselves
      - This often to lead to stealing food for their family
- Refugees may mistrust authority figures
  - Authority figures were the ones separating them from their families
    - They will do anything to keep their family together including lying
      - As well as fudging papers or filling out forms with what they think the authorities want to hear

Domestic Violence

- Perpetrators and victims often do not realize what they are doing is wrong
- Culturally, physical abuse and capital punishment of children is acceptable
  - Need to be educated that such violence and abuse is not acceptable
- Women often fear to report spousal abuse
  - Fear they will lose their immigration status
  - Their spouse has all the money
- Teens and youth quickly learn to "play the game" and report “abuse” in order to get away from family constraints against dating; mingling with youth of opposite sex, etc.

How Can Law Enforcement Help?



- When working with refugees
  - If possible, bring along an interpreter
  - Be considerate of their culture stigmas especially those surrounding men/women
    - When possible have a female officer present when interviewing/interrogating a woman
      - or bring a female social worker, a female victims advocate, or a community leader
  - Assure them that you are there to help and protect their rights
    - Law enforcement in the US is different than their countries
- To build better relationships
  - Participate in community events
  - Find opportunities to educate about the role of law enforcement in the community