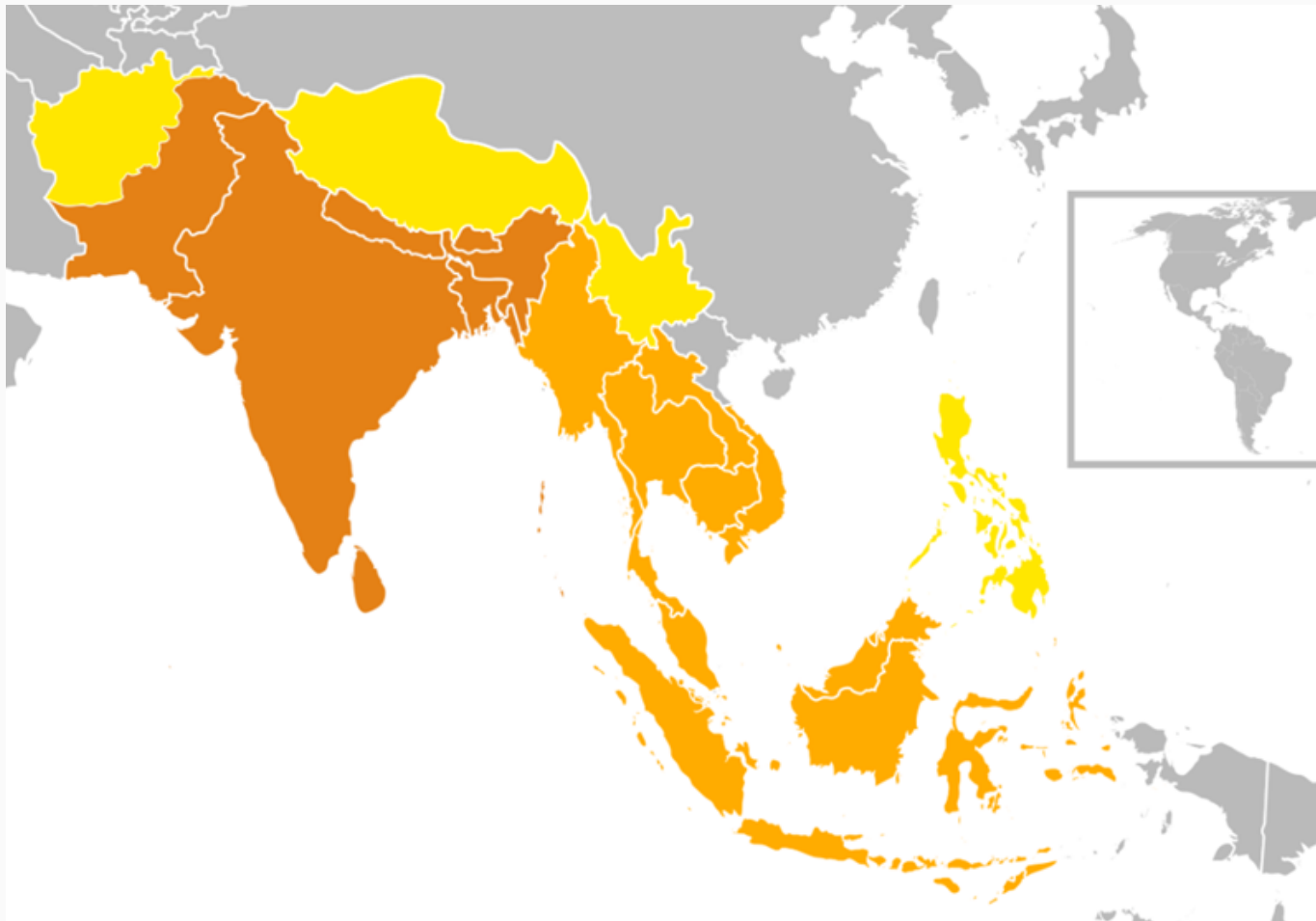


# Law Enforcement Guide to People from South Asia





# 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.

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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

அறிவிக்கப்பட்டு உலக  
தீர்மானமாக தீர்மானி

தொடர்பு உலக அமைதி

SCRIPTS  
of all of  
Asia





# Common Threads Among Asian Cultures

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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# Refugees from Asia

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- 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

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- 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?

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- 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

