

# What is a MAP CHALLENGE?

This **Map Challenge** is a special workshop, challenging you to learn more about **INDIA** -- taking you through the labeling of this map in detail!

A **Map Challenge** helps you really get involved when completing our maps!

**INDIA**

**ACTIVITIES**

**NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES**  
Label the following countries that form boundaries with India. Shade their boundaries:  
Nepal China Bangladesh Bhutan Myanmar Sri Lanka Pakistan

**BODIES OF WATER** Label the following bodies of water and shade with blue along the coastline:  
Indian Ocean Arabian Sea Bay of Bengal Gulf of Mannar  
Andaman Sea Laccadive Sea Palk Strait Gulf of Khambhat  
Bay of Bengal Comoros Channel Nanda Devi Bay Mouth of the Ganges

**RIVERS** Label the major rivers in on the map. Shade with blue:  
Ganges Yamuna Brahmaputra Indus Mahanadi Narmada Krishna Godavari

**PLAINS** Label and shade the three major plains shown in on the map:  
Himalayas Eastern Ghats Western Ghats Vindhya Range Naga Hills  
Andaman Islands Nicobar Islands

**MAP KEY**

- International boundary line
- Disputed boundary line
- Line of control between India and Pakistan
- Capital
- City
- Snow-capped Mountains
- Lower mountains
- Desert (light brown)
- Plains (green)
- River (blue)
- Tropic of Cancer (orange)

**WELCOME TO INDIA**, a large country in southern Asia. Its official name is Republic of India. Bharat. There are four major geographic features of India. The **Himalayan Mountains** in the north form a barrier along the highest in the world and their foothills form a large area. In the middle of the subcontinent is the **Indo-Gangetic Plains**, formed by the two great rivers that give the plain its name. Further south is the **Deccan Plateau**, surrounded by three smaller mountain ranges along the coastline and the **Eastern Ghats** and the **Western Ghats**. The **Vindhya Mountains** are centrally located.

India shares boundaries with **other Asian countries**. Historically, there have been many boundary disputes among Indian borders. Pakistan lies to the southwest, Nepal, Bhutan and China to the northwest. To the east are Bangladesh and Myanmar. The island country of Sri Lanka lies off the southeast tip of India.

There are many **bodies of water** around and in India. India extends into the Indian Ocean. The **Arabian Sea** lies to the west of Bengal to the east. Four major rivers pass through India. The **Ganges** and **Yamuna** rivers flow through the north. The **Godavari** has several smaller tributaries along the eastern coast. The **Godavari** is the eastern source of India. The **Indus** River flows through India and neighboring Pakistan and China.

The **highest peak in India** is Kanchenjunga Mountain which is over 28,200 feet high.

**Vegetation and climate** vary greatly in India. Snow-capped mountains in the north drop to temperate forests. In the mountains, there are evergreen forests. The **desert of the Thar** is in the northwest. In the south, there are jungles, home to tropical plants and animals. In eastern India are forests with many and many. People fish for a living along the many lakes and streams. Around the lakes and streams are vast areas of rice farmland where the flood lands receive water. In the south, rice is common. Summer monsoon winds bring rain in contrast to the dryness of the north.

India has a **population** of over a billion. It is the largest **democracy** in the world. The official language is Hindi and there are at least twenty other languages and hundreds of dialects. English is also spoken, a link to when India was a British colony. Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists are the three main religious groups, but there are at least a dozen religions.

Indian history stretches back to ancient times; many old buildings and ruins still exist. Modern-day India keeps pace with the rest of the world with its computer companies, the mining of valuable stones and minerals, as well as with the famous film-making industry known as "Bollywood".

**MAPS FOR THE CLASSROOM** INDIA map.  
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# INDIA MAP CHALLENGE!



Expanded Map Workshops, for Map of the Month's Individual maps

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# INDIA

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**ACTIVITIES**

**NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES**  
Label the following countries that form boundaries with India. Shade their boundaries for color.

**BODIES OF WATER**  
Label the following bodies of water and shade with blue along the coastline.

**RIVERS**  
Label the rivers shown in on the map. Single with blue.

**MOUNTAINS**  
Some mountains have already been drawn in on this map. Using the symbols in the MAP KEY, draw, color and shade to complete these ranges.

**ISLANDS**  
Label and shade three groups of islands shown in on the map.

**BOUNDARY LINES**  
Draw the lines of boundary lines on the map.

**NEW DELHI**  
Label the capital city and New Delhi in the Indian territory.

**OTHER CITIES**  
Label the following cities shown on the map.

**PLAINS**  
Label the plains shown on the map.

**DESERT**  
Label the desert shown on the map.

**TROPIC OF CANCER**  
Label the Tropic of Cancer shown on the map.

**REGIONS**  
Label the regions shown on the map.

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India's history stretches back to ancient times. Many old buildings and ruins still exist. Modern-day India keeps pace with the rest of the world with its computer, medicine, the rising of valuable stone and minerals, as well as with the famous film-making industry known as "Bollywood".

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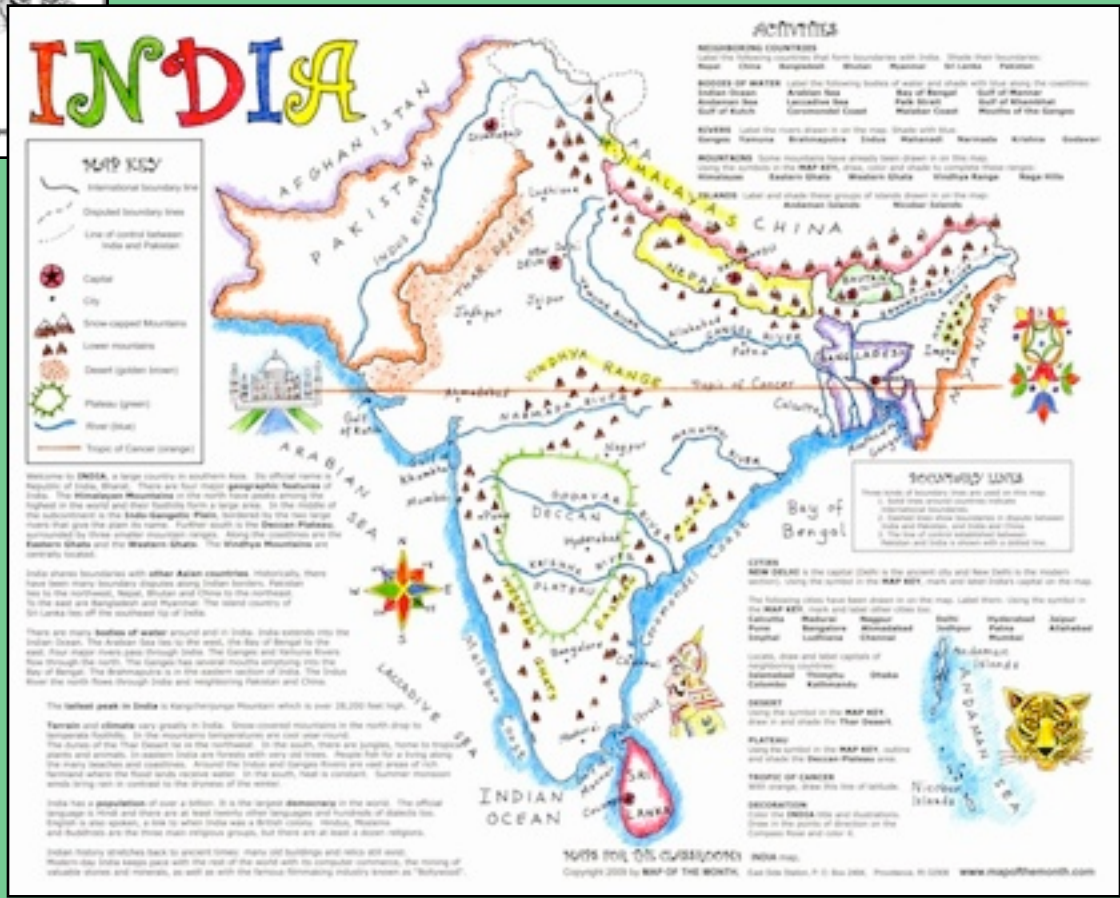
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MAPS FOR THE MONTH: INDIA map  
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Our Map Challenge acts like a workshop, taking you through the labeling of this INDIA map in detail!

When you start out, the black and white map is blank, as at left. When you are done, your map is a filled-in colorful work of cartographic art!



SEE A LARGE VERSION OF THIS FINAL MAP ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS FILE!

Whenever you see our mascot EARTHWORM, you will have one of these extra beyond-the-map activities that relate to INDIA!



MAPS FOR THE MONTH: INDIA map  
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# ALONG THE COAST!

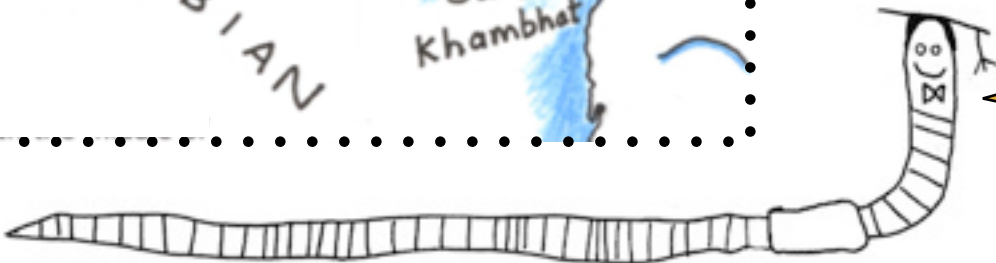
INDIA has a lot of coastline.

As you label the names of the bodies of water surrounding the country, use your neatest lettering.

Shade a nice edging of blue along the coastline to make the water stand out.

Neatness is super important! Remember, you are making this map to show other people and have them enjoy, so presentation is everything!

These map details, shown inside the dotted boxes, are taken from your large map that you are working on!



INDIA extends into the Indian Ocean.  
The Arabian Sea lies to the west, and  
the Bay of Bengal to the east.



The Indian Ocean is the third  
largest of the world's oceans,  
making up approximately  
20% of the water on Earth.

# ON THE MAP!



EXTRA CREDIT!

Do some research  
to find out how  
many smaller  
bodies of water  
make up the  
INDIAN OCEAN

There are many  
islands in the  
INDIAN OCEAN: list  
as many of them as  
you can.  
Tell which country  
they belong to!

# Four major rivers pass through INDIA

The **GANGES RIVER** and the **YAMUNA RIVER** flow through the north of INDIA

The **GANGES** has several "mouths" emptying into the Bay of Bengal.

The **BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER** is in the eastern section of India.

The **INDUS RIVER** in the north flows through India as well as neighboring Pakistan and China.

List some of the other smaller rivers that flow through the large country of India.  
What is a DELTA?





## RIVERS

Shade a nice edging of blue along the rivers to make them stand out.  
Label the rivers with capital letters.



### HOW DO RIVERS SUPPORT LIFE?

Many rivers run through the varied terrain of INDIA.

How do people use rivers to make their lives better?

When do rivers make life difficult for people?



One of India's most famous buildings, the Taj Mahal, is located on the Yamuna river.  
Who was this beautiful building made for? Many visitors come from all around the world every year to see it -- why is it important?



## SRI LANKA, Island country off the coast of INDIA

### NEIGHBOR to INDIA!

The island country of Sri Lanka is located in the Indian Ocean near the southeastern tip of the country of INDIA.

In the past, Sri Lanka had a different name: it was called Ceylon. Long ago, the land that forms Sri Lanka was probably connected directly to India by a "land bridge." Over the centuries many **cyclones** have cut openings in the narrow strip to turn this land into an island. Very rough weather is well-known in this part of ASIA.

Sri Lanka is unique in that it has many spectacular **waterfalls**, some of them as high as 83 feet. With some, the water flows along dramatic steps. One of the most famous falls is called Dunhinda, and the spray of it looks like smoke! Other waterfalls rush down with a powerful surge!

Sri Lanka has two famous nicknames: "The Nation of the Smiling People" and "Pearl of the Indian Ocean". When you eat an apple pie, it is possible that the **cinnamon** spice came from this island!

Define the words in bold type!

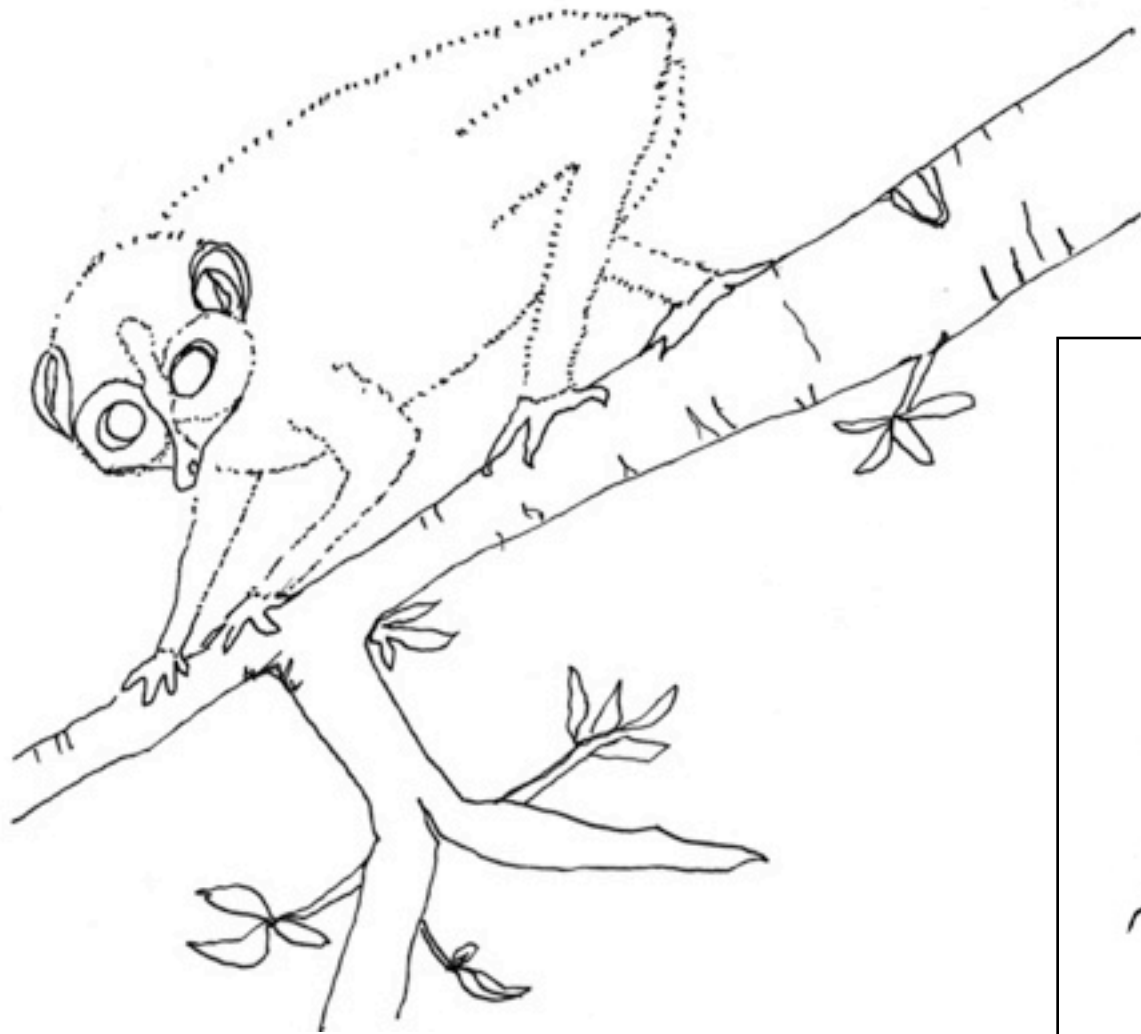
## **SLENDER LORIS, from INDIA and SRI LANKA**

The Slender Loris is native to both the island of Sri Lanka as well as the country of India. These nocturnal primates can be found primarily in forests and swamps.

The Slender Loris is distinguished by its elongated limbs, vestigial tail, and opposable thumbs. Their huge round eyes which provide them with great vision come in handy at night. They are solitary foragers and feed mostly on insects, fruits and leaves, and even reptiles, birds and the occasional small mammal.

These little creatures are only 25 cm, or a little over 9" long. Sadly people often snatch them from their native habitats to be used as exotic pets, so they are at a high risk for extinction.



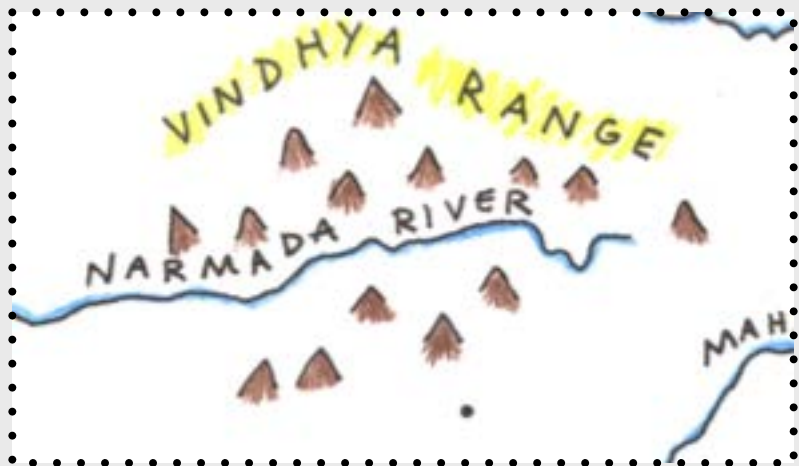


Print this page for EXTRA CREDIT, to color  
the Slender Loris  
and complete the small map of SRI LANKA  
Worksheet copyright 2106 Map of the Month.

# HIGH PEAKS

When labeling MOUNTAINS on your large map, use CAPITAL LETTERS.

This will make the names really stand out!



Shade over the letters of the mountains with a bright light color to highlight the names.

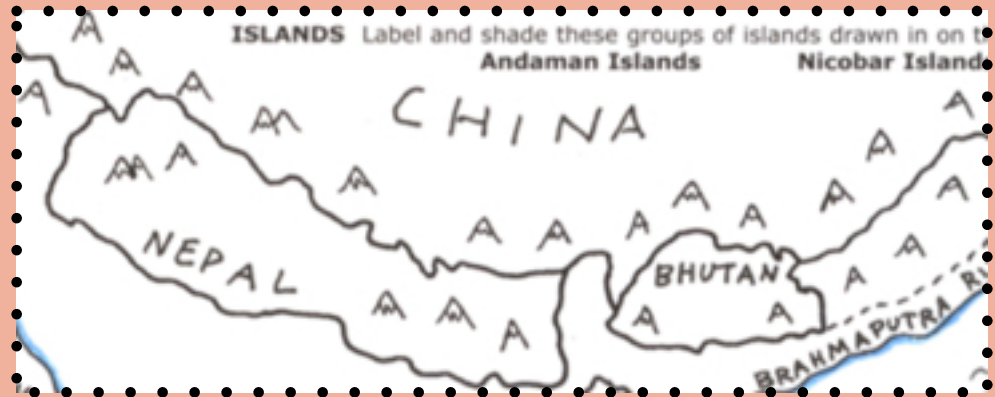


If the mountain range is more vertically oriented, write along the sides of the mountains, in the same direction.

Label the neighboring countries that share boundaries with INDIA. Use capital letters.

## ADDING MORE COLOR!

Here's a great way to make the countries and territories stand out from each other!



Color the inside edge of the boundary lines in different colors. This leaves plenty of white space for labeling other features on the map: mountains, rivers, cities, etc.!

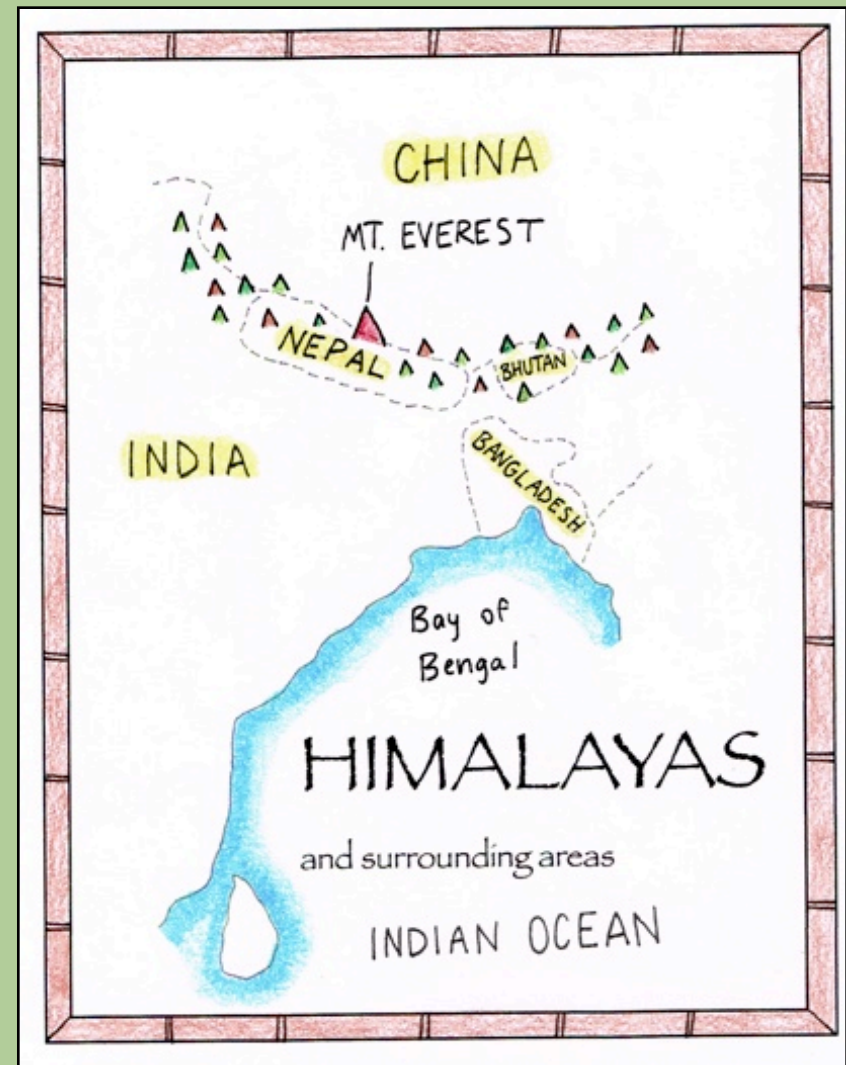


# HIMALAYAS

The highest mountains in the world are the **Himalayan Range**. This range of giant peaks crosses many countries in the continent of Asia: India, Nepal, Bhutan, China and Pakistan.

**Mount Everest** is the tallest mountain in the world and part of the Himalayan Mountain Range. Everest is **29,029 feet high**, or 8,848 meters high. The boundary that divides the country of China from the country of Nepal runs through the center of Mount Everest.

The climate of the Himalayas can be very different from area to area. In the south, there are tropical areas. In the highest magnificent peaks, the snow and ice never melt. Over the centuries, Indian people have traveled from the torrid summer temperatures of the cities to vacation in the cooler areas of the Himalayan foothills.



Pika are small solitary mammals that closely resemble rodents. They can be found in the **HIMALAYAN MOUNTAINS**. Their habitats vary, and they live in many different kinds of places. Some can be found on rocky terrain, others build underground burrows. Pika are herbivores and consume a variety of plant matter, including grass, moss and twigs.



**THREE** unique animals from the **HIMALAYAS** are:

**SNOW LEOPARD**  
**HIMALAYAN BLACK BEAR**  
**RED PANDA**

**DESCRIBE** their habitat, what they eat, and how they raise their young.

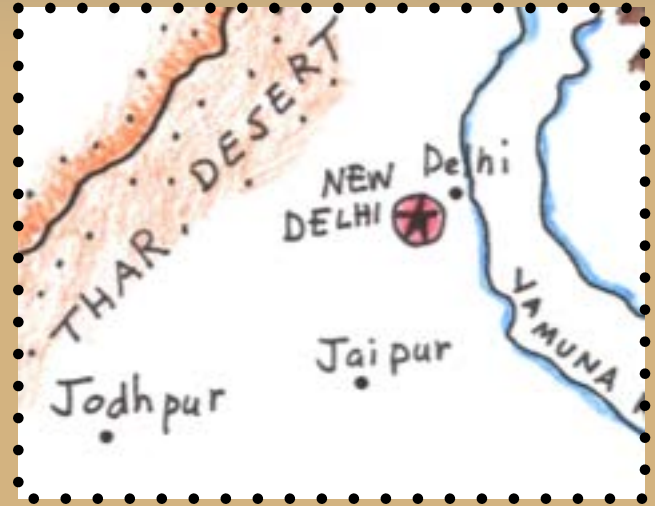


# CITIES AND CAPITALS

Label the major cities in INDIA using lower case letters. These cities are marked with a dot.

The CAPITAL city of INDIA AND CAPITALS of neighboring countries should be labeled in CAPITAL LETTERS.

These major cities are marked with a star surrounded by a circle.



Notice that the city of Delhi and the capital NEW DELHI are NOT the same city.



# The Rashtrapati Bhavan, the "Presidential Residence"



These decorative elephant sculptures can be seen on the grounds of Rashtrapati Bhavan.





The White House in Washington, D.C. is the home of our American president. In the same way, this large complex is known as the Rashtrapati Bhavan is the official home of the President of India. It is located in the city of New Delhi, India.

The mansion is a 340-room main building that has the President's official residence, halls, guest rooms and offices.

There is also a 320 acre "President Estate" that surrounds the major building. This area includes the spacious Mughal Gardens, large open spaces, and homes for of bodyguards and staff, stables, other offices.

Symbols are small pictures that stand for different features on a map. All the symbols for a map are often grouped together in a MAP KEY for reference.

## MAP KEY

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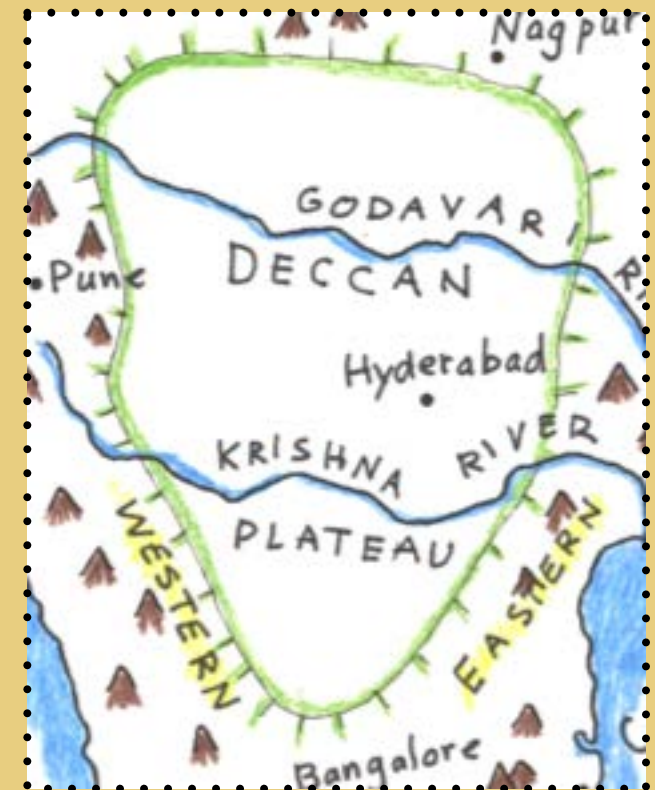


Using the symbol in the MAP KEY, draw in and shade the THAR DESERT.

Using the symbol in the MAP KEY, draw in and shade the DECCAN PLATEAU.



Define these landforms:  
 PLATEAU  
 DESERT

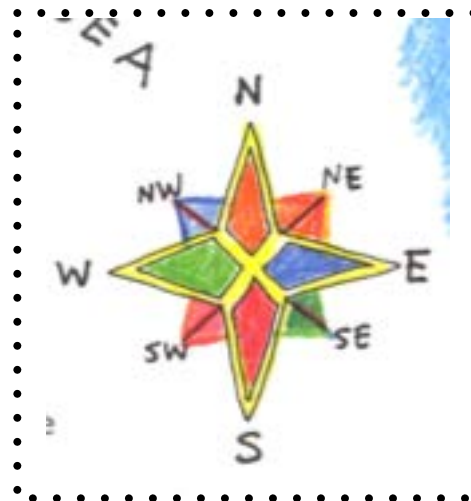




Color the illustrations to  
decorate your map!  
Draw in the line for the  
**TROPIC OF CANCER!**



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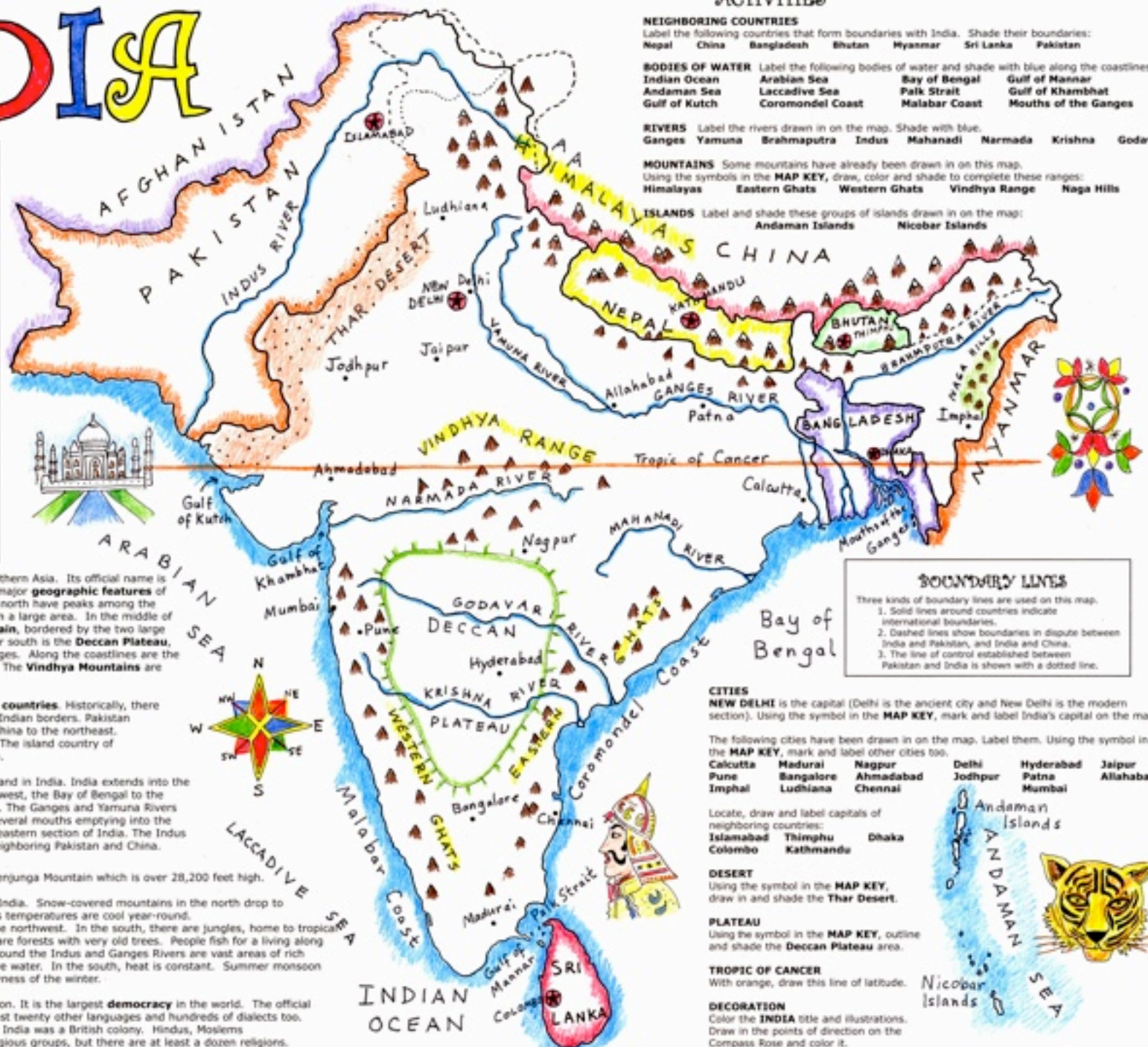


Color and label the  
**DIRECTIONS** of the  
**COMPASS ROSE.**

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- RIVERS**  
Label the rivers drawn in on the map. Shade with blue.  
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- MOUNTAINS**  
Some mountains have already been drawn in on this map.  
Using the symbols in the MAP KEY, draw, color and shade to complete these ranges:  
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### BOUNDARY LINES

Three kinds of boundary lines are used on this map.

1. Solid lines around countries indicate international boundaries.
2. Dashed lines show boundaries in dispute between India and Pakistan, and India and China.
3. The line of control established between Pakistan and India is shown with a dotted line.

Welcome to **INDIA**, a large country in southern Asia. Its official name is Republic of India, Bharat. There are four major **geographic features** of India. The **Himalayan Mountains** in the north have peaks among the highest in the world and their foothills form a large area. In the middle of the subcontinent is the **Indo-Gangetic Plain**, bordered by the two large rivers that give the plain its name. Further south is the **Deccan Plateau**, surrounded by three smaller mountain ranges. Along the coastlines are the **Eastern Ghats** and the **Western Ghats**. The **Vindhya Mountains** are centrally located.

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**CITIES**  
**NEW DELHI** is the capital (Delhi is the ancient city and New Delhi is the modern section). Using the symbol in the **MAP KEY**, mark and label India's capital on the map.

The following cities have been drawn in on the map. Label them. Using the symbol in the **MAP KEY**, mark and label other cities too.  
Calcutta Madurai Nagpur Dethi Hyderabad Jaipur  
Pune Bangalore Ahmadabad Jodhpur Patna Allahabad  
Imphal Ludhiana Chennai

Locate, draw and label capitals of neighboring countries:  
Islamabad Thimphu Dhaka  
Colombo Kathmandu

**DESERT**  
Using the symbol in the **MAP KEY**, draw in and shade the **Thar Desert**.

**PLATEAU**  
Using the symbol in the **MAP KEY**, outline and shade the **Deccan Plateau** area.

**TROPIC OF CANCER**  
With orange, draw this line of latitude.

**DECORATION**  
Color the **INDIA** title and illustrations. Draw in the points of direction on the Compass Rose and color it.