



Children's Corner

Sairam Children,

Wish you all a happy new year. This month we shall see some interesting facts about our country

1. The World's First Granite Temple is the Brihadeswara Temple at Tanjavur, Tamil Nadu. The shikhara of the temple is made from a single 80-tonne piece of granite. This magnificent temple was built in just five years, (between 1004 AD and 1009 AD) during the reign of Rajaraja Chola.



2. The game of Snakes & Ladders was created by the 13th century poet saint Gyandev. It was originally called 'Mokshapat'. The ladders in the game represented virtues and the snakes indicated vices. The game was played with cowrie shells and dices. In passage of time, the game underwent several modifications, but its meaning remained the same, i.e. good deeds take people to heaven and evil to a cycle of re-births.



3. Until 1896, India was the only source of diamonds in the world (Source: Gemological Institute of America)

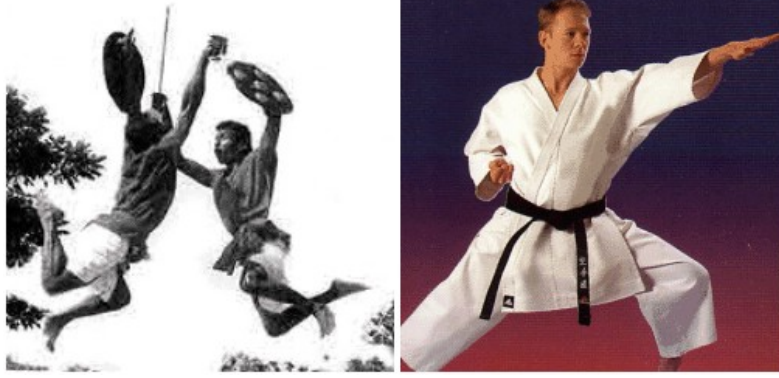


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4. **Martial Arts** were first created in India, and later spread to Asia by Buddhist monks.



5. There are 300,000 **active mosques** in India, no other country in the world has as many,



Jama Masjid

Will come back next month. Till then Sairam



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