

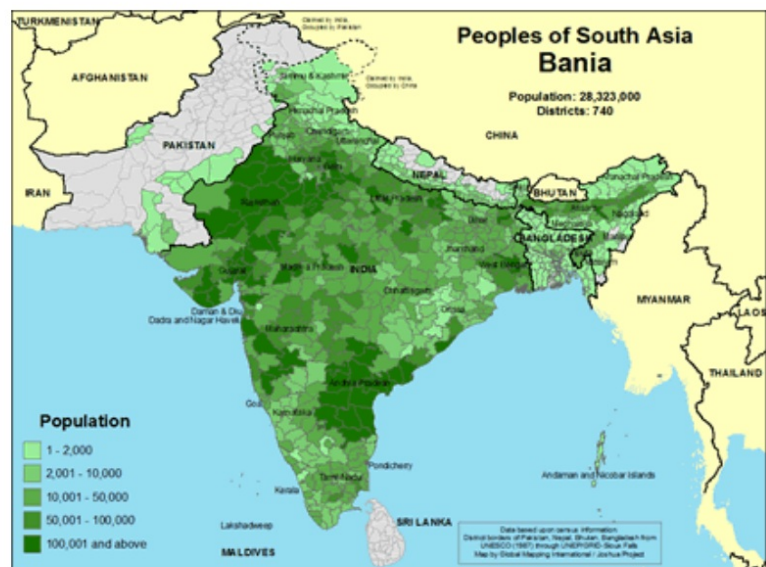
Pray for the

UNLEASHED FOR THE
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BANIA (Magahi)

of
India



Population: 663,000

Religion: Hinduism

Christian: 0%

Language: Magahi



Joint families are common among the Bania, though smaller families also exist. Inheritance is patrilineal – all sons inherit an equal share of parental property and the eldest son succeeds his father as head of the family. Daughters do not inherit anything.

Bania families are known for the extreme loyalty towards their own community, caring and giving financially when needed.

The Hindu Bania worships all main Hindu gods and goddesses like Shiva (Destroyer), Parvati (his wife), Vishnu (Preserver), Krishna, Rama, Durga (a militant goddess) and Hanuman (the monkey god who wards off evil spirits and danger). Lakshmi (goddess of wealth and prosperity; Vishnu's wife) is held in special reverence and so is Ganesh or Ganpati (elephant-headed god of good luck and remover of obstacles; Shiva's son). These deities are prominently displayed and worshiped in their work places and homes.