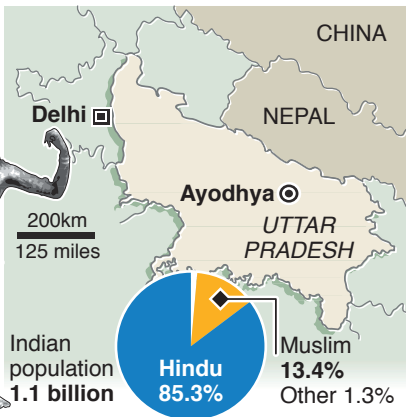
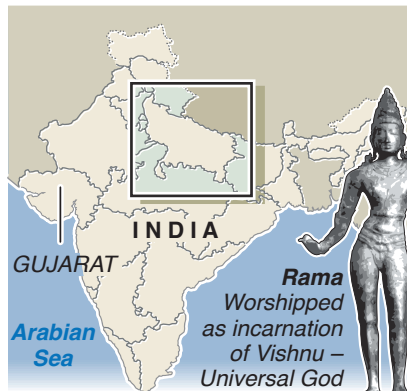
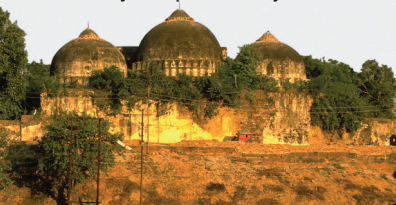


Timeline of India's Ayodhya dispute



■ **1528:** Hindu fundamentalists claim Mughal emperor **Babar** destroyed **Ram temple** at Ayodhya – birthplace of their god-king **Rama** – and built **Babri Masjid** mosque. Many Muslims say temple is a myth



■ **1853:** First recorded incidents of religious violence at Ayodhya

■ **1859:** British colonial administration erects fence to separate places of worship, allowing inner court to be used by Muslims and outer court by Hindus

■ **1984:** World Hindu Council (**Vishwa Hindu Parishad** party, or **VHP**) pledges to rebuild temple

■ **1986:** Muslims set up **Babri Mosque Action Committee** in protest

■ **1989:** VHP steps up campaign, laying foundations of temple to Rama short distance away from mosque

■ **1990:** VHP supporters partially damage mosque

■ **1991:** Hindu nationalist **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** comes to power in Uttar Pradesh

■ **1992:** Mosque is torn down by VHP and BJP supporters. More than 3,000 people die in nationwide rioting

■ **Dec:** Investigation into demolition of mosque set up under retired High Court Judge **M. S. Liberhan**

■ **2001:** VHP renews pledge to build temple at Ayodhya

■ **Feb 2002:** At least 58 people killed in attack on train carrying Hindu activists returning from Ayodhya

■ **Mar:** Up to 2,000 people, mostly Muslims, die in riots in Gujarat following train attack

■ **Aug 2003:** Archaeological survey reports evidence of temple beneath mosque. Claim challenged

■ **Jul 2005:** Militants attack site

■ **Nov 2009:** After 17 years, Liberhan commission finally submits report, blaming leading BJP politicians for role in mosque's demolition

■ **Sep 30, 2010:** High Court rules disputed holy site to be split, with Muslim community to get one third and two Hindu groups to share rest