

What is the Sarna Religious Code?

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Why in News?

- Tribal communities of five states, including Jharkhand, Odisha, and Assam, demanded that the Central Government recognize their religion as 'Sarna' and ensure their enumeration under this category during the upcoming census.

About Sarna Religion:

- Followers of the Sarna faith are **nature worshippers**.
- The **holy grail** of the Sarna faith is **"Jal (water), Jungle (forest), Zameen (land)."**
- Its followers **pray to the trees and hills** while believing in **protecting the forest areas**.
- Believers of the Sarna faith **do not practice idol worship, nor do they** adhere to the **concept of the Varna system, heaven-hell**, etc.
- They are concentrated mainly in the **tribal belt states of Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam**.

- Several surveys and reports have indicated that **over 50 lakh tribal people** in the entire country **put their religion as 'Sarna'** in the 2011 census, although it was not a code.
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Q1) Which are the six major religious communities in India?

The vast majority of Indians identify with six major religious groups: Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains.

Source: [BJP skips all-party meeting; TMC set to table 2 motions](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-the-sarna-religious-code/>

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