RICE FARMING IN TRINIDAD

 Trinidad is a part of a twin republic islands known as Trinidad and Tobago. Trinidad has a population of over one million people. Some people live in towns, but others live in villages. The capital town of Trinidad is Port of Spain. The people are descendants of the Africans, Indians, Chinese, and the British. These different ethnic groups (people of different origin) have an effect on Trinidad’s culture. In some of the villages in the north, many people speak Spanish. In other villages the older people speak a form of FRENCH called PATOIS. Christmas carols are still sung in French and Creole. African dishes such as coo coo, callaloo, and crab are enjoyed by many of the peoples. African dances and stories have a great influence on life in Trinidad.

The British influence in Trinidad is seen in the dress, speech, dances, and songs of the people. Like The Bahamas, the way we are governed is based on the British system of government. Carnival is a festival held in Trinidad which is similar to our Junkanoo.

In Trinidad many of the people are Hindus. They attend their temple or MANDIR on Sundays. They celebrate the Hindu feast days like the festival of Divali, which is celebrated as a public holiday in Trinidad and Tobago.

Rice farming is common in Trinidad. A rice field is called a paddy field. Rice will only grow during the hot rainy season. At the start of the season, the fields are ploughed. Then the field is flooded with water until it is very wet and muddy. The rice seedlings are planted by hand. As the rice grows the fields are continually flooded. The water is allowed to rise in the field but it must not drown the plants, which grow fast in the heat and rain. After the rainy season is over, the paddy fields dry out and the rice group is gathered. This is called a harvest. It is a tiring job and takes many days. A hook-shaped knife called a SICKLE is used to cut the seed heads off the tall stalks. These are then gathered up and tied together. The bundles are taken to the threshing shed where they are crushed and beaten so that the ripe seeds fall off. The seeds are gathered in bags and taken to the mill where they are sold.

1. Name three dishes prepared in Trinidad.

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1. Which national custom in Trinidad is similar to our Junkanoo?

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1. Name the capital of Trinidad.

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1. Explain the term ‘ethnic group’.

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1. Name the temple Hindus attend in Trinidad.

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1. What is a paddy field?

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1. List the steps taken after a rice crop has been harvested.

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1. When does rice grow best?

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1. Explain how rice is planted.

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1. What kind of nation is Trinidad?

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1. How is they way Trinidad governed like that of The Bahamas?

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1. List the Ancestors of the Trinidadians.

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1. Name and describe the knife used in gathering rice.

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1. When is rice harvested?

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1. Where is the rice taken to be sold?

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1. Explain what patois is.

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1. In which languages are most Trinidadian Christmas carols sung in?

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1. How is the influence of the British seen in Trinidad?

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1. Name a Hindu national holiday in Trinidad.

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**SPEACIAL PROJECT**:-

***Using Microsoft Powerpoint create a presentation that represents the information presented on Trinidad in the reading comprehension above. Be as creative as possible :- Due ….. Monday, September 16, 2013***