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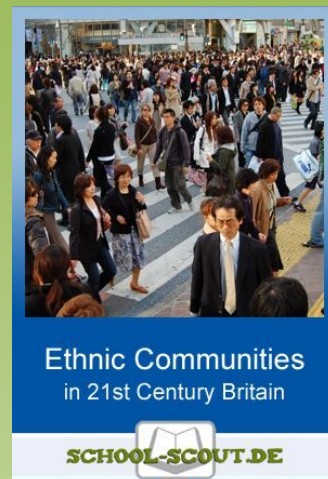
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Auszug aus:

Ethnic Communities in 21st Century Britain - The Ups and Downs of Cultural Identity

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Titel: *Arbeitsblatt aus der Reihe „School-Scout – aktuell“*
**Ethnic Communities in 21st Century Britain –
The Ups and Downs of Cultural Identity**

Bestellnummer: 60411

Kurzvorstellung:

- Diese fertig ausgearbeiteten Arbeitsblätter zur englischen Landeskunde setzen sich diskursiv mit ethnischen Minderheiten in Großbritannien, ihrem Leben und ihrem Anteil an der britischen Gesellschaft sowie der Frage nach kultureller Identität auseinander.
- Als größte Minderheit wird die Gruppe der British Asians vertiefend behandelt. Die Arbeitsblätter eignen sich hervorragend zum Einstieg in die Thematik „Ethnic Communities in Britain“.

Inhaltsübersicht:

- Work sheet 1: Charts and statistics on immigration in Britain
- Work sheet 2: British Asians –Ups and Downs of Cultural Identity
- Ausführliche Lösungsvorschläge



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After the partition, large religious groups resettled in the two countries according to their religious beliefs. Whether Sikh, Muslim or Hindu, whether they were forced to flee from the often brutal religious conflicts of the *Great Migration* or simply using financial earnings of WWII to uphold the already existing ties during World War II, there were many new immigrants who came to Great Britain. The prospect of building a new, improved and safer life in the UK was alluring as Great Britain suffered a shortage of labour after WWII.

Hence the 1950s saw mass immigrations of South Asians to the UK whose lax immigration laws allowed for newcomers to arrive freely and enabled them to found shops and supermarkets, restaurants and building work forces. While British politics soon reacted by restricting immigration, family ties and unions still allowed for South Asians to come to Britain in the course of the 1980s. Second generations of British Asians were born and now striving for higher education often entering medical professions and science. The numbers even peaked during the late 80s and 2000s.

Nevertheless, Britain did not present itself as the most welcoming place for immigrants. Competition between ethnic groups in the UK due to different religions continued. Often enclosed within their respective communities and trying to uphold their culture and traditions, which had not much in common with the British way of life, religious or otherwise based intolerance also came from the British themselves. Cultural and religious clashes between white British Christians and British Asians as well as other ethnic minorities such as Black British soon ensued. As a result, race riots (amongst



Chicken Masala

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others in London, Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds in the 1980s) fostered the formation or strengthening of various extreme right parties in opposition of immigrants.

Luckily today British Asians make up a good part of the British population and have found their place within the British society. Not only does every high street of even the smallest British village have chicken masala competing with fish and chips for most beloved British national food but Indians, Pakistani and Bangladeshi have adopted

British culture and adapted to it, as well. Lately the first Sikh has joined the Beefeaters, the famous guards keeping watch at the gates of Buckingham palace. It is safe to say that today British Asians have shaped British culture and the understanding of British identity.

TASK: Read the text carefully and answer the following questions.

1. Outline the main reasons why South Asians were motivated to settle in the UK?
2. Which are the main difficulties British Asians were to face in the UK?
3. Can you think of other influences British Asians have had on British culture?

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