Ryan Maharaj

February 2, 2023

ANTH 1045

Dr. Glaser

I uploaded a family photo to the migration scrap book to share my family's migration story. My aunt (my dad's sister) first migrated to the United States from Trinidad and Tobago. She helped to pave the way for the rest of my family to migrate to the United States. When my aunt migrated to the United States, she worked to help support my family back in Trinidad. Facing significant financial hardship as well as inadequate opportunities, my family wanted to migrate to the United States for better economic opportunities. My aunt being one of the first in my family to arrive here, solely is responsible not only for getting the rest of my family members here from Trinidad, but also keeping our family together by making sure we always spend Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years with each other. In this photo, we are all wearing authentic Indian attire celebrating one of my cousin's birthday. Immigrating from Trinidad, my family brought with them their West Indian cultural identity. We all till today still practice Hinduism, the religion we brought from Trinidad and that our forefathers practiced when they arrived in Trinidad from India. In addition to bringing our culture and religion, knowledge of ethnic foods and how to prepare them came with us so we can continue our much beloved traditions and teach our successive generations how to make them as well. Being a child of immigrants, when I look back at the migration story of my family, at the struggles they all had to face, I am filled with honor and pride that I am fortunate to inherit my family's migration story and to further this story which began with my aunt.

