

# Difference Between National Anthem and National Song

The terms National Song and National Anthem are often used interchangeably, but these two mean different. A detailed difference between National Anthem and National Song is as follows-

| National Anthem  | National Song  |
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| A national anthem reflects the tradition, culture, and history of a country.   | A national song presents the relevance to the country's population based on various factors.                               |
| It is a musical composition with a particular tune, timing, lyrics, and rules that should be adhered to while singing.                 | It can have many variations which depend on the language and traditional factors.  |
| "Jana Gana Mana" is the national anthem of India. It was composed by Rabindranath Tagore in the year 1911.                             | "Vande Mataram" is the national song of India. It was composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in the 1870s.                  |
| According to Article 51A of the Indian Constitution, it is the duty of every Indian citizen to respect and honour the national anthem. | It does not have such constitutional privileges. It is not listed as a fundamental duty.                                   |
| The Indian Parliament has made the singing of the national anthem compulsory during all public occasions.                              | The National song is given equal importance as the national anthem, but it is not compulsory to sing it on every occasion. |

## National Song and National Anthem

Key features of the national anthem of India are as follows:

- The time duration of the national anthem is fifty-two seconds.
- Jana Gana Mana is the national anthem of India.
- It was originally written in the Bengali language.
- Everybody must pay respect and stand while singing the national anthem.

Key features of the national song of India are:

- Vande Mataram is the national song of India.
- It was considered the national cry for freedom.
- There are three different versions of 'Vande Mataram.' All these versions are of different timings and tunes.
- It was originally written in the Sanskrit language.

Both national song and national anthem are patriotic songs that relate to the diversity of a country. The national anthem is a formally adopted song by the government. Not every country has both. Countries that do not have national songs consider the national anthem as their national song.

