

#### #RegionalBooklet

# the journey

2017





2018

2019





2020

#### introduction

Dear Patron,

Welcome to 'Regional India: Languages and Dialects', the fifth edition of Fuzion's Regional India booklet, that brings to you captivating insights from the heart of India.

In our first edition, we explored 'shock facts' about Regional India (Heartland of our country beyond the metros), followed by second edition, wherein, we tried imbibing 'India's true Social Fabric' by showcasing the festive spirit that binds us together. In the third edition, we dived into the 'Diverse Heritage' of Regional India, and the fourth edition brought to light the adaptability of 'Regional Media in the New Normal' & its emergence as the next potential market for brands.

India is land of cultures and what better way to explore them but languages and dialects. Through the fifth edition of Regional India Booklet this year, we explore the most prevalent languages and dialects we need to understand to truly paint our communication canvas with regional colors.

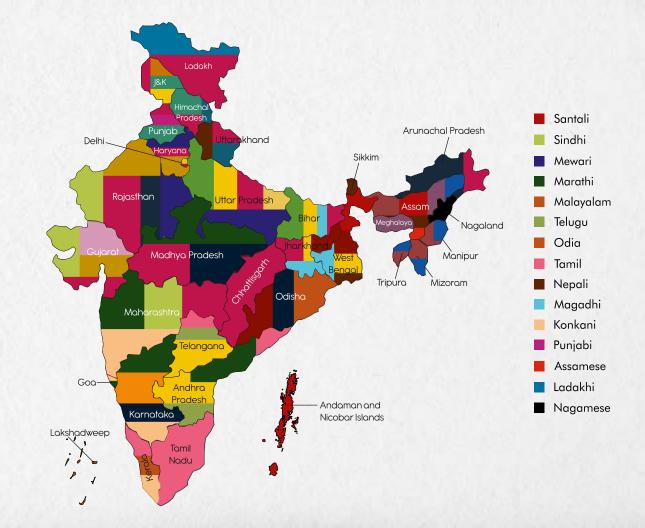
We hope this **#RegionalBooklet**, like the previous editions, adds to your perception of Regional India and tempts you to discover it a little bit more.

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Hindi

Khasi

Urdu

Dogri

Mizo

Bengali

Manipuri

Marwari

Awadhi

Garhwali

Gujarati

Sanskrti

Kannada

Bhojpuri

Kashmiri

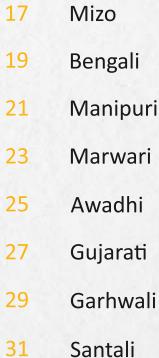
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Urdu

# Hindi Sanskrit Khasi Kannada Bhojpuri



Kashmiri

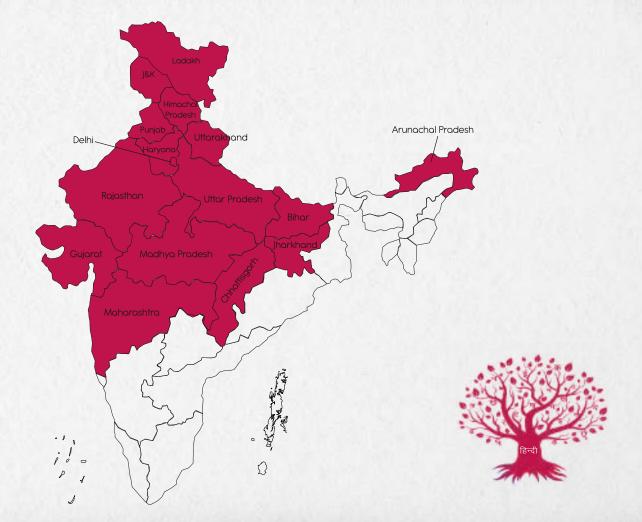
Dogri

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### **ि**ठवार्त

Hindi is one of the most spoken languages in the world, with around 615 million speakers. In India, it is the main language used in the northern states of Rajasthan, Ladakh, J&K, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Chattisgarh. It belongs to the Indo-Iranian sub-family of the Indo-European family of languages. Hindi has been influenced and enriched by Turkish, Arabic, Persian, English and Dravidian languages. The earliest form of Hindi was called 'Apabhramsa', which was an offspring of Sanskrit. Hindi is derived from the Khari Boli dialect, which is also known as Hindustani.

Hindi has its roots in the Sanskrit language and has achieved its present form after several centuries with a large number of dialectic differences. Hindi has a Devanagari script, which is combined for many other Indian languages also. The first book believed to be published in Hindi was Prem Sagar. The book was published by Lalloo Lal and depicted the tales of Lord Krishna.

In Hindi language, each character has a different sound. Thus, it is one of the easiest languages to learn in the world and is one of the seven Indian languages that can be used to make web URLs.



Sanskrit



#### **şanşkrit**

Sanskrit, our mother language, is considered the root of many indigenous languages. Sanskrit is the primary sacred language of Hinduism, and has been used as a philosophical language in the religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Sanskrit is a standardized dialect of Old Indo-Aryan, originating as Vedic Sanskrit as early as 1700-1200 BCE. It is believed to have been the general language of the greater Indian Subcontinent in ancient times and is still used today in Hindu religious rituals, Buddhist hymns and chants, and Jain texts. Sanskrit is vital to Indian culture because of its extensive use in religious literature, primarily in Hinduism, and because most modern Indian languages have directly originated from, or strongly influenced by, Sanskrit.

Today, Sanskrit is still used in the Indian Subcontinent. More than 3,000 Sanskrit works have been composed since India became independent in 1947, while more than 90 weekly, biweekly, and quarterly publications are published in Sanskrit. Sudharma, a daily newspaper written in Sanskrit, is being published in India since 1970 and is published from the city of Mysore in the Indian state of Karnataka. It is one of the official languages in only one Indian state, Uttarakhand in the north, which is dotted with historical Hindu temple towns. Uttarakhand is called Devbhoomi (land of Gods) and Sanskrit is the Devbhasha (the language of Gods), thus the status.



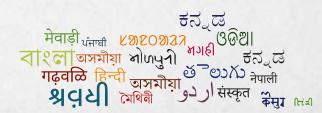
Khasi



## khaşi

Khasi is originally an oral language with no script of its own. It used the Bengali script until the arrival of Welsh missionaries and is written using the Latin and Bengali-Assamese scripts. This language is spoken primarily in Meghalaya state of India with notable speakers in Assam and Bangladesh as well. Spelled Khasia, Khassee, Cossyah or Kyi, it is one of the several members of the Khasian branch of the Mon-Khmer family, which is itself a part of Austrosiatic stock. It is spoken by close to 1.6 million people living in the region surrounding the Khasi Hills and Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya state, India. It is also spoken by a number of people in the hill districts of Assam and by a small population of people living in Bangladesh due to its close association with the Indian border. The language contains a number of words borrowed from Indo-Aryan languages, especially from Bengali and Hindi. The first journal in it was U Nongkit Khubor (The Messenger) published at Mawphlang in 1889 by William Williams.

The main dialects of this language are Sohra and Shillong, dialects from a dialect continuum across the capital region. Sohra dialect, due to strong colonial patronisation, came to be regarded as Standard Khasi. Additionally, various debates are ongoing for the inclusion of Khasi language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Thomas Jones, the first Welsh missionary amidst the Khasis and who is now honored as the 'Father of Khasi Alphabets', used the Roman script in the early 1840s to write down the Khasi spoken language.







#### kannada

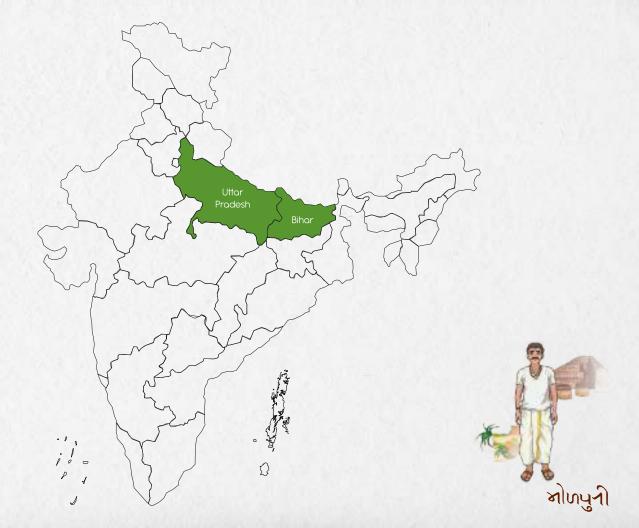
Kannada, also known as Kanarese or Kannana language, is the official language spoken in Karnataka. It was in 2008 that Kannada was given the status of a classical language with around 38 million individuals speaking it as their first language and 9-10 million taking it as a secondary language. There are about 20 spoken dialects of Kannada which are usually grouped into three major groups: Northern, Southern and Central. All the dialects are influenced by neighboring languages such as Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, and others. Three regional varieties of Kannada are identifiable. The southern variety is associated with the cities of Mysore and Bangalore; the northern with Hubli-Dharwad, and the coastal with Mangalore. Kannada is supposed to be the most logical and scientific language in the world.

The earliest inscriptions in Kannada date back to 450 AD. Kannada literature was fully developed by the 10th century, and works on medicine and science appeared in the 12th century. Kannada was also the court language of some of the most powerful empires of South and Central India, such as the Chalukya dynasty, the Rashtrakuta dynasty, the Vijayanagara Empire and the Hoysala Empire.

Kannada language is written using the Kannada script which evolved from the 5th century Kadamba script. In 2011, a center for the study of classical Kannada was established in Mysore to enhance the research related to the language. The number of Kannada speakers is minutely dispersed in other areas as well, which includes countries like Australia, UK, North America, Canada, etc. The form of Kannada is different when it comes to speaking and writing. Spoken Kannada varies from region to region, whereas written is consistent throughout the area of Karnataka. また。



Bhojpuri



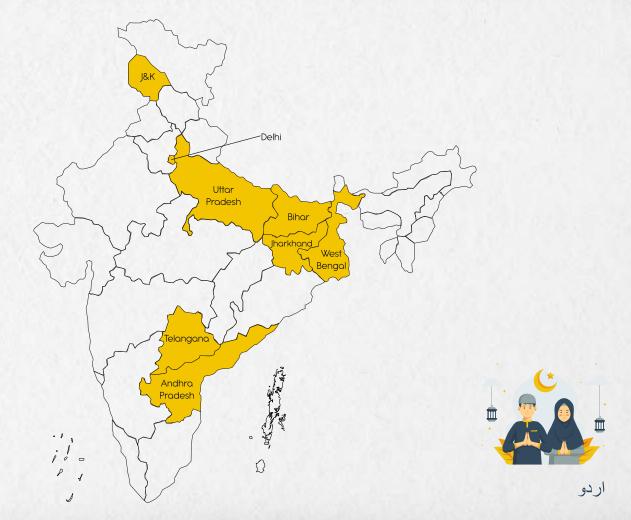


Among the Bihari languages, Bhojpuri covers the largest area, comprising western Bihar, eastern Uttar Pradesh, and the southwest part of Nepal, and other regions of South Asia with varying dialects. Bhojpuri is also said to be closely related to the Magahi and Maithili languages of the Eastern Indo-Aryan group. Its presence as the chief lingua franca of sizeable communities of Bhojpuri-speaking settlers in Mauritius, Trinidad Guyana, and Surinam also accords it the title of an International Language.

With 51 million speakers, it is the 8th most spoken language in India and 3rd most spoken language in Nepal and ranks 26th in the list of languages with the most native speakers, amounting to nearly 52.2 million speakers. Bhojpuri is one of the recognized national languages of Nepal and the official status of Fiji as Fiji Hindi. It is one of the 154 languages in which UNO has published the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Many Bhojpuri magazines and papers are published in Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh, namely: Parichhan- a contemporary literary-cultural Maithili-Bhojpuri magazine, published by a Maithili-Bhojpuri academy and the government of Delhi; The Sunday Indian- a regular Bhojpuri national news magazine; Aakhar- a monthly online Bhojpuri literature magazine. Mahuaa TV and Hamar TV are some of the noteworthy Bhojpuri Channels.





#### urdu

Urdu is an Indo-Aryan language spoken chiefly in South Asia as a first language by nearly 70 million people and as a second language by more than 100 million people, predominantly in India and Pakistan, making it the 11th most widely spoken language in the world. Urdu was often referred to as the Hindustani language by the British administrators in India. According to a lot of people, the earliest form of Urdu evolved in the medieval period. In 1837 it also replaced Persian as the court language in the East India Company. Urdu is an Eighth Schedule language whose status, function and cultural heritage are recognized by the Constitution of India. Urdu and Hindi share a common Indo-Aryan vocabulary base and very similar phonology and syntax, making them mutually intelligible in colloquial speech. Urdu was chosen as an official language of Pakistan in 1947 as it was already the lingua franca for Muslims in north and northwest British India.



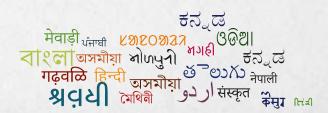
Kashmiri

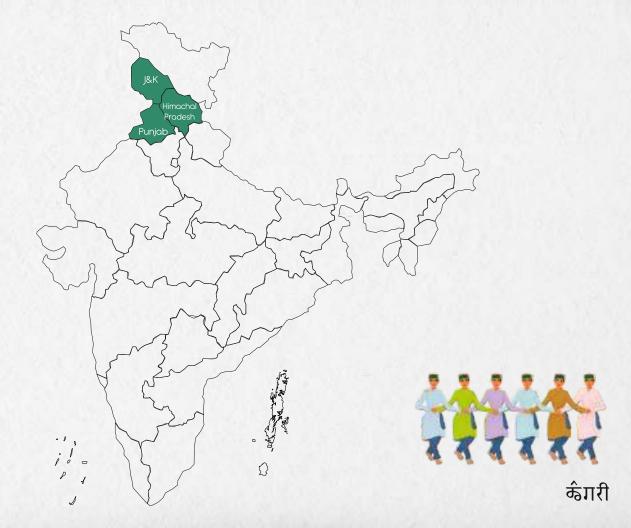


Kashmiri language, popularly known as 'Koshur', is a unique language in the Indian linguistic context and is spoken primarily in the Kashmir valley of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir. It is spoken by 7 million plus people in and around Kashmir. The Kashmiri language has the uniqueness of secularism and the delicacy of communal harmony. There are three orthographical systems used to write the Kashmiri language: the Perso-Arabic script, the Devanagari script and the Sharada script.

Traditionally, after the 8th century A.D, Koshur was written in Sharada script but has now been replaced by Devanagari (associated with Kashmiri Hindus) and Perso-Arabic scripts (associated with Kashmiri Muslims).

Kashmiri is blossomed with one of the richest literatures in India as old as 750 years and has a history of at least 2,500 years, going back to its glory days of Sanskrit. The use of Kashmiri language began with poet Lalleshvari in the 14th century, who wrote mystical verses. The language is known for its rich literary tradition, particularly, for its poetry.







Dogri, popularly known as the language of dogras, is the second prominent language of Jammu & Kashmir with its speakers found in parts of Himachal Pradesh & undivided Punjab. It is a northern Indo-Aryan language spoken by about 2.6 million people in India, the majority in Jammu region of J&K. The combined speakers of this language in India and Pakistan are 5 million and it is regarded as the mother of 17 languages. It is now included in the list of Western Pahari groups of languages.

Dogri is written using either Devanagari script or Persian variant of the Arabic script. It was historically written in Dogra variant of the Takri script. This Dogri- speaking region consists of these three main terrains (1) the sandy, stony, waterless and hard of soil area of Districts Jammu, Kathua and Udhampur of Jammu Province of J&K State, (2) pahari -mountainous region of District Kathua of J&K, Chamba and Kangra of Himachal Pradesh and (3) Plain-cum-reverine-include southern regions of Jammu and northern parts of Districts Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur of Punjab and Sialkot and Shakargarh regions of Pakistan. These regions differ in speech from each other in pronunciation, as the inhabitants of Pahari terrain are habitual of using syncopated grammatical forms whereas inhabitants of Kandi and plain terrains possess their own characteristics. Dogri verbal communication embraces various dialects of Punjabi words and a little of western Pahari. It was first mentioned in Amir Khusro's list of Indian languages. In the year 1317, Amir Khusro, the famous Urdu and Persian poet, referred to Dogri while describing the languages and dialects of India as follows: "Sindhi-o-Lahori-o-Kashmiri-o-Duger."







Mizo or Mizo Tawng is a language spoken in the extreme north-eastern state of India 'Mizoram' also referred to as the land of Blue Mountains. The Mizo language, also known as Duhlian and Lushai, belongs to the Kuki-Chin-Mizo branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family. It is the official language of Mizoram along with English. Mizo is written in simple Roman script including 25 letters with spellings based on phonetic form. The language is derived from the Lusei dialect and various Mizo sub-tribes and sub-clans.

Apart from Mizoram, it is a common language in some parts of Bangladesh to the extent of the Burma region. In India, it is spoken in a few parts of Assam, Tripura, and Manipur. Even though Mizo is one of the widely spoken northeast languages, it has not gained its place in the list of scheduled languages of India.



Bengali





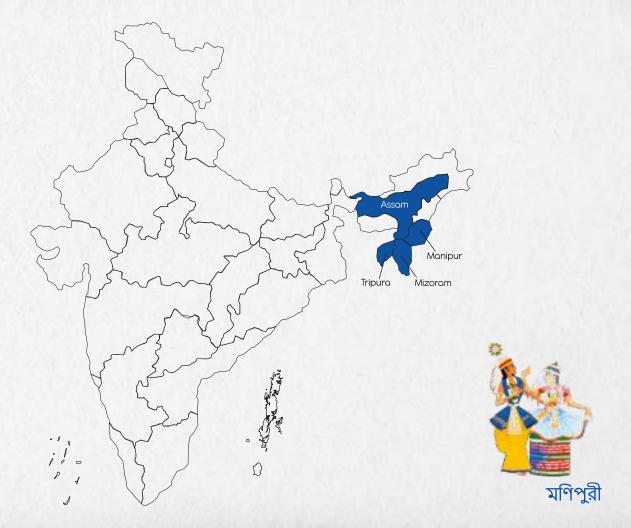
Bengali, also called Bangla, is the second most-spoken language in India. It is an Indo-Aryan language spoken by approximately 300 million native speakers and another 37 million as second language speakers worldwide. Within India, Bengali is the official language of West Bengal, Tripura and the Barak Valley region of the state of Assam and is also the most widely spoken language in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Bengali has a rich literature dating back to 1000 A.D. and the English language has borrowed words like "jute" and "bungalow" from it. It is said that in the distant past Oriya, Assamese, and Bengali formed a single branch. Some Bengali linguists suggested that Bengali had its origin in the 10th century CE, deriving from Magahi Prakrit.

Regional variation in spoken Bengali constitutes a dialect continuum. There are two standard styles in Bengali: the Sadhubhasa (elegant or genteel speech) and the Cholito-bhasha (current or colloquial speech).

The national anthem of India was originally written in Bengali by Rabindranath Tagore, although the lyrics were later translated into Hindi and Urdu. Interestingly, the Sri Lankan and Bangladeshi national anthems were also composed in Bengali originally.



Manipuri



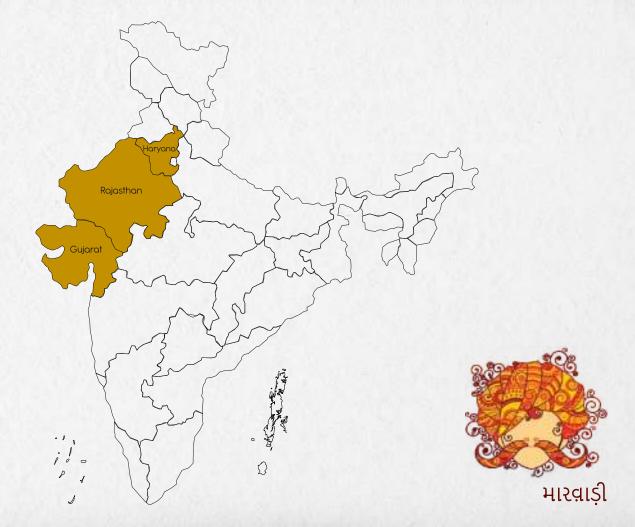
# लक्षांक्षण

Manipuri became the first Tibeto – Burman language to get recognized as the official language of India in 1992. Majorly spoken in Manipur, a north-eastern state of India, this language has approximately 1.5 million speakers across the globe. Smaller spoken groups of Manipuri exist within Assam, Mizoram and Tripura and the Union of Burma (Burma). It is also known as Meitei (Meetei) which is most probably derived from "Mai" (Mai =people, comp. Burmese "mai" =man) + "Tai" (=Thai), meaning the Thai people. It is the most spoken language in the Northeast after Bengali and Assamese and does not have voice constants. Manipuri is written in Abugida script. It was used until the 18th century, when it was replaced by the Bengali alphabet. Recently, it was reintroduced as the writing system of the Manipuris. Also, the twenty seven Manipuri letters are not phonetic names but names of parts of the human body.

Manipuri is the only language of the state to be included under the 8th scheduled languages of the Indian constitution. The language is often regarded as constituting a genetic subgroup within theso-called Kuki-Chin-Naga group.



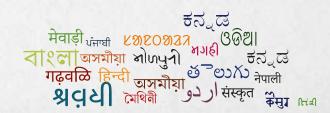
Marwari



#### 

Rajasthani has a literary tradition going back approximately 1500 years. Marwari is the most spoken Rajasthani language with approximately 8 million speakers situated in the historic Marwar region of western Rajasthan. It is also rendered Marwadi, Marvadi and is the traditional, historical, language of the Marwari ethnicity.

Marwari has no official status in India and is not used as a language of education. It is still spoken widely in and around Bikaner and Jodhpur. There are two dozen Marwari dialects. It is popularly written in Devanagari script, as is Hindi, Marathi, Nepali, and Sanskrit. Marwari is also found in the neighboring states of Gujarat and Haryana, Eastern Pakistan and some migrant communities in Nepal.



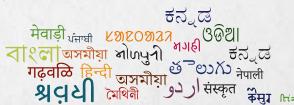


#### awadhi

Awadhi is a language spoken in the Awadh region of Uttar Pradesh. The name, Awadhi is connected to the ancient town Ayodhya, which is also said to be the town of Lord Rama. The meaning of Awadhi is "the duration of an event or state is the time that it lasts". Due to the cultural closeness, Uttar Pradesh considers Awadhi to be a dialect of Hindi. As a result, Modern Standard Hindi, rather than Awadhi, is used for school teaching, administrative and official reasons and its literature falls under the category of regional languages.

The Devanagari script, the Kaithi alphabet, or a combination of the two, is used to write Awadhi. Its first literary appearance was in the writings of Damodara Pandita in the 12th century. The earliest book in the Awadhi language is -"Chandrayan" by Mulla Daood. This language is widely used in several Hindi movies like Peepli Live and Lagaan. Moreover, the famous cinema star Amitabh Bachhan has used this Awadhi language in many of his songs and movies like the well-known song Holi khele Raghuvira Awadh Me from Baghban and also in the song Ek Rahe Eer Ek Rahe beer in Bhoothnath movie.

The narrative of Ramcharitmanas is the most fascinating legend of Awadhi. The pandits of Kashi were angry when Tulsidas selected Awadhi over Sanskrit for his great work. They considered Tulsidas' choice of language, or 'Lok Bhasha', for repeating a sacred scripture to be heretical and threatened to excommunicate him. He is said to have written a defiant lyric in reaction to this, angrily rejecting the authority of these self-appointed keepers of religion. With terms from Sanskrit, Arabic and Persian, Awadhi has a rich vocabulary.

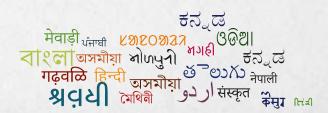


Gujarati

### gujarati

Gujarati is the official language of the state of Gujarat. It is also spoken in Dadra, Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. It is named after the Gurjar/Gujar community people who settled in the region in the middle of the 5th century C.E. The language is a mix of three languages — Urdu, Sindhi and Gujarati. Gujarati stands at the 26th position among the most spoken native languages in the world and is spoken by nearly 46.1 million people throughout the world. It is one of the major regional languages of India which is recognized by the Constitution of India. Gujarati language belongs to the south-western group of new Indo-Aryan languages.

The language came into existence in the late 19th century when it was primarily used for business transactional purposes, which included writing professional letters and maintaining business accounts. It is descended from Sanskrit and the first manuscript in Gujarati was written way back in 1592. Though the language came into existence in 1592, it came into immeasurable usage only in the 1700s. Gujarati grammar was introduced by a Jain Monk and an eminent scholar – Hemchandra Acharya. Gujarati, also known for its simplicity was the first language of the father of India - Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.



Garhwali





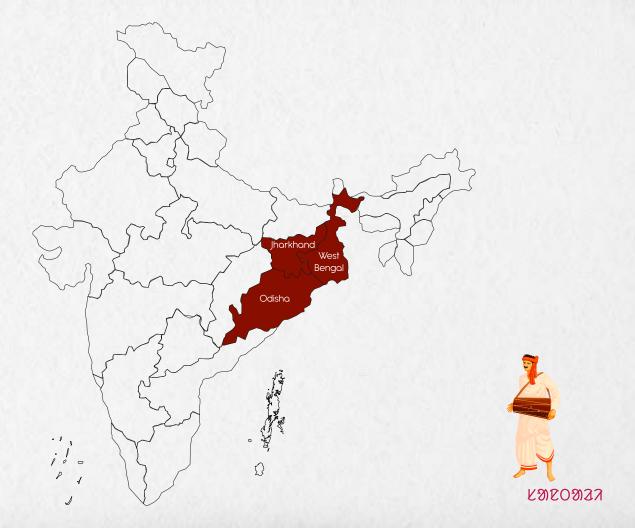
Mainly an Indo-Aryan Pahadi language, Garhwali is not only spoken by people belonging to the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand but in parts of Himachal Pradesh. The use of this language is very vigorous among the population in the local villages as well as in cities and towns since the people from these villages migrate to these nearby towns. Almost everyone who speaks Garhwali can also speak and understand Hindi. Garhwali has many dialects like Srinagariya, Badhani, Tehri, Lohbya, Jaunsari etc. which differ from one another.

The earliest form of Garhwali may be dated back to the 10th century, in the middle of the development of Indo-Aryan languages in India, when there were multiple Prakrits (closely related literary languages), one of which evolved into Garhwali or Gadwahi. The roots of this language can be classified with Indo European, Indo Iranian, Indo Aryan, and languages of other intermediate divisions. Various seals, inscriptions, copper plates, and temple stones with royal commands and grants written in the Garhwali language have been discovered. The temple gift inscriptions of King Jagatpal in Devprayag, is an example that has been discovered and dates from 1335 AD. Up until the 17th century, the Garhwal region was a sovereign ruled by various Garhwali kings who made it an official language of their kingdom.

According to a study, Garhwali has grammatical gender too. Also, it is listed by UNESCO as a vulnerable language since only 0.2 million people use this language for their communication.



Santali





Santali language, also spelled Santhali, is a Munda language spoken primarily in the east-central Indian states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Orissa. Santhali is written in Ol Chiki script and spoken by 6.4 million people, according to the 2001 census, in India alone and its speakers live mostly in Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Assam. It is also spoken in Bangladesh and Nepal. It is a recognized regional language of India as per the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

It is spoken by around 7.6 million people in India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal, making it the third most-spoken Austroasiatic language after Vietnamese and Khmer. Santali was a mainly oral language until the development of Ol Chiki by Pandit Raghunath Murmu in 1925. Santali includes a northern and a southern dialect. It is the major member of a sub-group of the Kherwarian branch of North Munda. Kherwarian also includes Mundari and Ho, each with about one million speakers. Santali is an official scheduled language of India. Santali is one of India's 22 scheduled languages, and is officially recognized as the second state language in Jharkhand and West Bengal states. Santali is taught in primary schools in India and Nepal, and used in literature, newspapers and on the radio in India. Santali was honored in December 2013 when the University Grants Commission of India decided to introduce the language in the National Eligibility Test to allow lecturers to use the language in colleges and universities.



Sindhi



## इांतवीतां

Sindhi is one of the oldest languages of the Indian sub-continent, with a rich culture, vast folklore, and extensive literature. Sindhi is not a very old language but a living and thriving one. With its origin in Sindh, Pakistan, the language is today spoken in major states of India like- Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan. It is also spoken, often as a second or third language, and is used as a medium of instruction or taught as a subject in schools, especially in the state of Maharashtra. As a result of the historically isolated situation of Sindh in the lower Indus valley, Sindhi is distinguished within Indo-Aryan by many linguistic features of its own. Sindhi is written in three different scripts: a modified Arabic script used in both Pakistan and India, and the Devanagari script used by a number of Sindhi speakers in India. It is established that Sindhi was the first and the earliest language of the East in which the Holy Quran was translated in the eighth or ninth century A.D.

Post India- Pakistan partition, numerous Sindhi Hindus migrated from Sindh and settled in the Central, Western and Northern parts of India. Sindhi has crossed the Rann of Kutch and is spoken by a large number of people in Kutch, Gujarat, and the peninsula of Kathiawar and Saurashtra in India. In the east, it has influenced the speech of the neighboring parts of former Marwar and Jaisalmer. Smaller Sindhi- speaking groups are also found overseas in North America, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. According to Ethnologue, Sindhi has numerous dialects which differ in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary. A few of them are- Kachchi, Lasi, Vicholi, Standard Sindhi and Thareli.



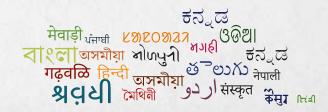
Mewari



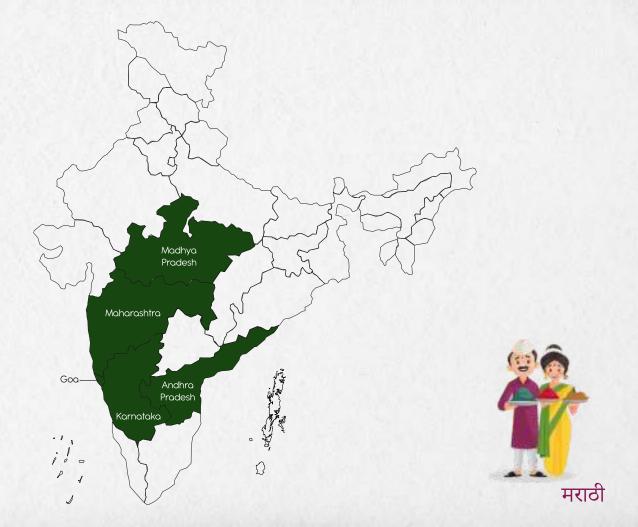
### लहळ्यवां

There are 57 Languages in Rajasthan of which the second-largest language is Mewari, with nearly 5 million people who speak the language. It is the only spoken and not written language. Rajasthani language comprises other dialects in addition to Mewari, such as Marwari, Malvi, Dhundhari, Harauti, Mewati, Shekhawati, Wagri, and Brahmin. Mewari, though directly spoken in Rajasthan, its impact can be seen in the neighboring states of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. There are approximately 7.8 million people who speak this language, which makes it one of the largest varieties of Rajasthani.

The name Mewari comes from the Mewar region of Rajasthan. However, as Hindi and English take control in Rajasthan, the language's presence is dwindling. The second most widely spoken language, Mewari, also plays an important part in Rajasthani literature. The language of 'Mewari' is said to be unique from that of 'Marwari.' In Mewari we greet someone by saying, "Khamma Ghani" but in Marwari we say "Ram Ram sa".



Marathi



## marathi

Marathi, which is sweet like nectar, is the mother tongue of Maharashtra. It is one of the oldest modern-day Indo-Aryan languages, dating back to approximately 900 A.D. The grammar of Marathi is quite similar to other Indo-Aryan languages like Bengali, Punjabi and Hindi. However, unlike these languages, Marathi is agglutinative, which is one of the important features of Dravidian languages. Some of the dialects of Marathi languages are Maharashtrian, Konkani and Varhadi and its script consists of 52 letters (16 vowels and 36 consonants).

The earliest known writing was found in Satara on the copper plate of Vijayaditya and the first written Marathi document was found in Maharashtra, dating back to 1012 C.E. The language was also known as Maharathi, Maharashtri, Malhatee, and Marthi in ancient times.

Marathi is spoken natively by the Marathi people in the state of Maharashtra. In India, it is also spoken in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, which marks it as one of the 22 languages of India. It is also spoken in Israel and Mauritius. Today, Marathi ranks 4th in India and 19th in the world for number of speakers.



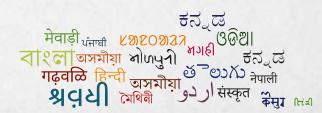


# लबोबपुबोबल

The initial and the last parts of the word Malayalam have different meanings - 'Mala' referring to a hill and 'Alam' referring to the depths of the ocean. It is a Dravidian language spoken in the Indian state of Kerala and the union territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry by the Malayali people and by bilingual communities in contiguous parts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The language is spoken by a total of 35 million people worldwide. Although closely related to Tamil, Malayalam is more influenced by Sanskrit than Tamil.

The origin of Malayalam remains a matter of dispute among scholars. The mainstream view holds that Malayalam descends from early middle Tamil and is separated from it sometime after the 9th century. Malayalam has three important regional dialects and a number of smaller ones. Variations in intonation patterns, vocabulary and distribution of grammatical and phonological elements are observable along the parameters of region, religion, community, occupation, social stratum, style and register.

The earliest record of the language is an inscription dated to approximately 830 CE. The earliest extant literary work in Malayalam is Ramacharitam, an epic poem written in the late 12th, or early 13th century.



Telugu



## telugu

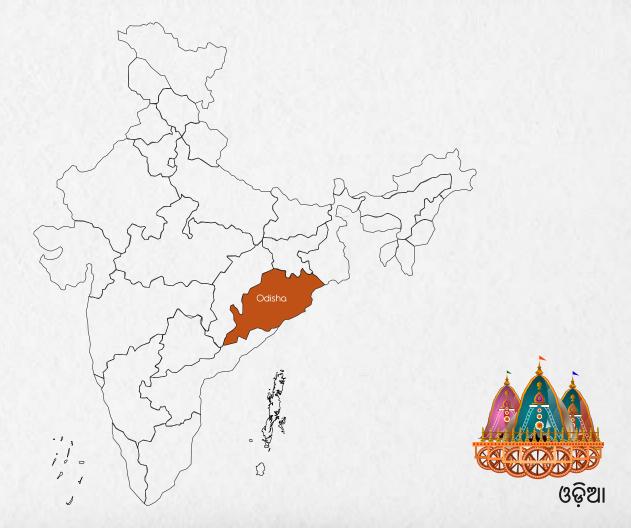
Telugu is the official language of people living primarily in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and was designated as one of the classical languages on 8 August 2008. Ranking fourth among the languages with the highest numbers of speakers in India (nearly 82 million people), it also emerged as the fastest growing language in the United States. Telugu is the largest member of the Dravidian language family. The first written materials in the language date from 575 CE. The Telugu script is derived from that of the 6th-century Calukya dynasty and is related to that of the Kannada language.

There are three major dialects, namely, the Coastal dialect spoken in the Coastal Andhra region of Andhra Pradesh; the Rayalaseema dialect spoken in the four Rayalaseema districts of Andhra Pradesh, and the Telangana dialect spoken mainly in the state of Telangana. Waddar, Chenchu, and Manna-Dora are all closely related to Telugu. Other dialects of Telugu are Berad, Dasari, Dommara, Golari, Kamathi, Komtao, Konda-Reddi, Salewari, Vadaga, Srikakula, Vishakhapatnam, East Godaveri, Rayalseema, Nellore, Guntur, Vadari and Yanadi. In Karnataka, Bangalore has its own distinct dialect somewhat related to the Rayalaseema dialect.

The first Telugu language is Nagabu which was found in Sanskrit inscription of the 1st Century at Amravathi. The language has borrowed quite a few words from Hindi, Urdu, and English. Their literature, however began in the 11th century with the Epic version of Mahabharata by writer Nannaya Bhatta. The language is also spoken in many neighbouring states such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, some parts of Jharkhand, and West Bengal.

मवाड़ा <sub>पंताची</sub> हुन्त्र भागर

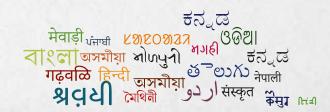
Odia



## ठवींव

Odisha became a separate province in 1936 which led to its official language being Odia, which also became the sixth Indian language to be designated as the official Indian language. It has 30 consonants, 2 semi vowels and 6 vowel phonemes. The language is used for all kinds of official purposes in the state. It is spoken by 84% of the population, nearly 50 million people. The language has walled down its heritage from the oldest of the eastern group of Indo-Aryan family and is very close to Assamese, Bengali and Maithili. The language has several dialects; Mudhalbandi (Coastal Odia) is the standard dialect and the language of education.

In the recent past, the language has developed various linguistic variations by the influence of the Aryan and Dravidian Arabic, Persian and English families. The language is a very sweet and heart-touching language that is easy to speak, read and write. Odia allows compounding like Sanskrit but does not allow elision. Different forms or dialects of the Odia language, namely Standard Odia, Major dialects, and Minor nonliterary & tribal dialects are spoken in different districts of the state.





#### tamil

Securing a space among scheduled languages in the Constitution of India, Tamil is the official language of the state of Tamil Nadu with its speakers found nationally as well as internationally. Apart from Puducherry, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana in India and Tamil diaspora in UK, Canada, Australia, Mauritius, the USA, people speak this language in countries of Singapore and Sri Lanka as well where it enjoys the status of an official language. What appears as the most distinguishing feature of this language is its description as the only language of contemporary India having a classical past. On account of its rich, varied ancient text and original literary tradition, Tamil was the first language to be added in the category of classical languages by Union cabinet in 2004. It is also the first language to be printed and published, with its literature being documented for over 2000 years.

The language has 6 dialects in India, 3 in Sri Lanka, 1 in Malaysia with unique words found among Tamil speakers in Kanyakumari. Tamil is spoken by more than 69 million people in India, which is approx 6% of the total population.

Accurate pronunciation: Tamizh (Ta-mirdh) and not Tamil (Ta-mil)



Nepali

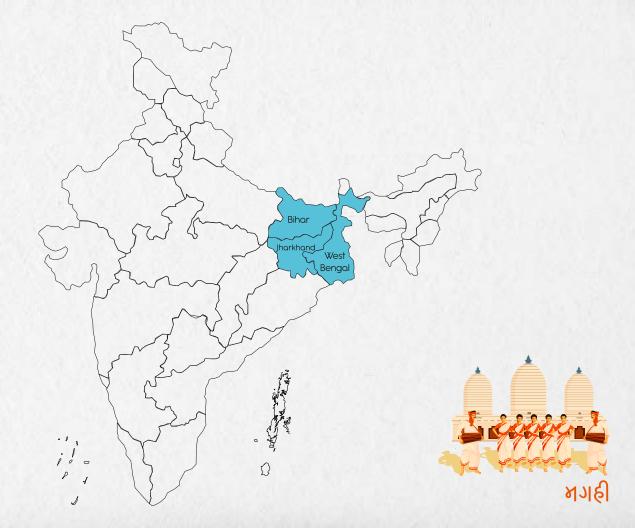


## तह्वीं

Nepali, the official language of the Indian neighboring country, Nepal, is also known as Gurkha, Gorkhali, or Khaskura. In India, it is spoken mainly in the regions of Sikkim, Darjeeling and some parts of Uttarakhand, Assam and Kalimpong district of West Bengal. Nepali is spoken by more than 17 million people, mostly in Nepal and neighbouring parts of India. The Nepali language is influenced by several Indo-Aryan languages, Pahari languages, Maithili and Sanskrit and has been considered as one of the 22 scheduled languages of India. Research suggests that the modern Nepali language is a progeny of the language spoken by the Khasha people. Additionally, the language is also known as Khas Kura, which was the language of the Khasa kingdom. The Nepali language is quite similar to Hindi, which is also derived from the Sanskrit language. The Nepali language is the mother tongue of nearly two-thirds of the Nepalese.

Dialects of Nepali include Acchami, Baitadeli, Bajhangi, Bajurali, Bheri, Dadeldhuri, Dailekhi, Darchulali, Darchula, Doteli, Gandakeli, Humli, Purbeli, and Soradi. Nepali is written in Devanagari, Devanagari Braille and Bhujimol script. However, Devanagri is the most common. It also possesses its literary collection. For instance, The Adhyatma Ramayana was written in Nepali by Sundarananda Bara and the other version of it was written by Bhanubhakta. A lot of Sanskrit words were translated into Nepali, which ultimately developed the language to a great extent.

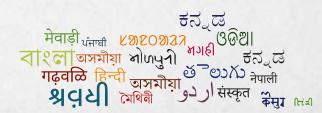




## लबहुबवीनो

Magadhi, also known as Magahi, is a language spoken in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal states of eastern India and in the Terai of Nepal. Magadhi Prakrit, spoken in the ancient kingdom of Magadha, was the ancestor of Magahi, from which the latter's name derives. Magahi used to be written mainly with the Kaithi script, but is now usually written with the Devanagari script. It has also been written with the Bengali and Odia scripts. It is also believed that this language was spoken by Gautama Buddha to deliver sermons. Magahi was presented as the official language of Mauryan Court and Gupta Empire, in which songs of Ashoka were composed. It was originated between the 8th - 11th centuries and has a very rich and old tradition of folk songs and stories.

Magadhi is closely related to Bhojpuri and Maithili and these languages are sometimes referred to as a single Language, Bihari. There are several dialects of Magahi spoken in the area which formed the core of the ancient kingdom of Magadha - the modern districts of Patna, Nalanda, Gaya, Jehanabad, Arwal, Aurangabad, Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura and Nawada and Munger. The word Magadhi, also meant as "a bard" because of numerous bards (poets) who narrated long epic poems in this dialect. Magadhi scripts Kaithi and Siddham used in the 20th century and during Gupta period. Although, the number of masses in Magadhi is over 20.7 million, yet it has not yet been granted a dominant status in Bihar. The development of this language is still in oblivion.



Konkani



#### konkani

Konkani is an Indo-Aryan language spoken in the Indian states of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Maharashtra. The word Konkan comes from the Kukkana (Kokna) tribe, the original inhabitants of the land where Konkani originated. It is the official language in Goa. It is one of the 22 Scheduled languages mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution. It is also spoken in some parts of Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. In India there are 2.5 million Konkani speakers.

Konkani was originally written with the Brahmi alphabet. In Goa it was written in Goykanadi script until the early 17th century. Currently, Devanagari is the official script for Konkani in Goa, though the Latin alphabet is also popular. In the state of Karnataka it is written with the Kannada alphabet. In Kerala it is written with the Malayalam alphabet, and Konkani Muslims in Maharashtra use the Arabic alphabet.

The Treatise Jananeswari written by Saint Jananeswar in Maharashtra in the 11th century was believed to be an older form of the Konkani language. Povitr Pustokantlem Bhanddar, Cover of Dovtrina Christam, Karmelin, Bhogadanda, Dika, Acchev, Bhuimdevi, Kapyallem, The Upheaval are some of the major works in Konkani language.



Punjabi





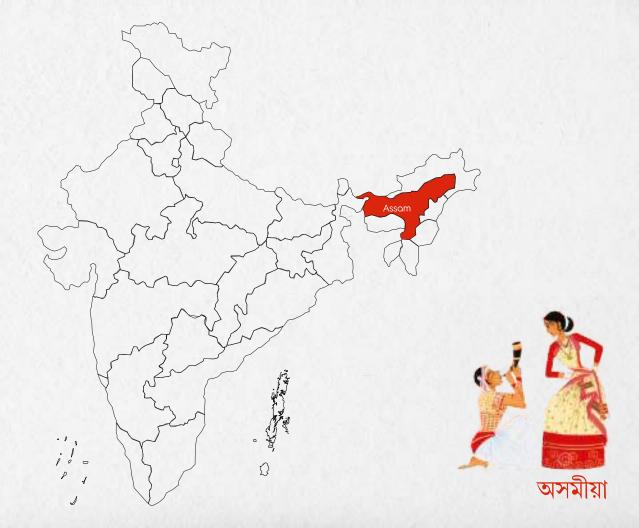
Punjabi is an Indo-Aryan language that is spoken by people of the Punjab region in North Western India. It is the official language of the state of Punjab in India. The term 'Punjabi' refers to the land which belongs to five waters. For the community of Sikhs, Punjabi is their principal language. There are more than one hundred and six million native speakers of the Punjabi language and is the widely spoken language in the world.

The earliest traces of Punjabi can be found in the works of ninth century. Guru Nanak Dev Ji was the founder of the Sikh religion and he gave a new impetus to the Punjabi language. The fifth Guruji, Arjun Dev compiled the Sikh scripture, the 'Adi Grantha' or the 'Grantha Saheb' in Punjabi. During these middle ages, the Hindu and Sikh writers wrote in the Punjabi language. The best known Hindu Punjabi poet of the seventeenth century was Chandar Bhan who was originally from Lahore. The first Punjabi printing press (using Gurmukhi font) was established through a Christian mission at Ludhiana in the year 1835, and the first Punjabi dictionary was published by Reverend J. Newton in 1854. Vir Singh is considered the father of modern Punjabi literature.

In modern culture, Punjabi language is now getting accepted among the Punjabis for wider use. These include use in modern media and communications networks. Jagbani and Ajit are two most popular newspapers sold in the Punjab region. The pop and folk songs in Punjabi have become very popular both in India and at International level. There has been an increase in the number of people interested in Punjabi literature.



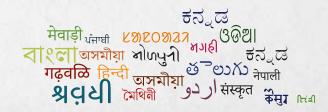
Assamese



#### **वड्ड्वलटड्ट**

Assamese which is also known as Asamiya is a language spoken in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Bangladesh and Bhutan. It is called the sister language of various other Indo Aryan languages. The most famous of those is the Bengali language as both the languages have no grammatical gender distinctions. Nearly 15 to 20 million people speak Assamese. The exact origin of the language has not been pinpointed, but it is believed to have been derived from the Kamrupi dialect of Prakrit language. The earliest forms of Assamese in literature are found in 9th-century Buddhist verses called Charyapada. However, a fully distinguished literary form appeared first in the 14th century. It became the standard literary form in the nineteenth century after getting infused with the eastern idiom.

Assamese is a medium of learning in Brahmaputra valley in schools at present. There is a widespread use of Assamese for writing. Today, over 20 Assamese newspapers are in circulation. A number of Assamese magazines are circulated monthly, fortnightly and annually, these have a huge reader base.



Ladakhi



## ladakhi

Ladakhi is majorly spoken in the Leh district of Ladakh, located in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. There are about 50,000 Ladakhi speakers in India, and another 20,000 or so mainly in Qiangtang region. It is the predominant language in the Buddhist-dominated district of Leh.

Ladakhi is usually written in the Tibetan script and pronounced in a way that is close to Classical Tibetan: i.e. Written Ladakhi is written either in a Ladakhified version of Classical Tibetan or in colloquial Ladakhi. Ladakhi, which is also known as Bhoti, has a number of dialects: Ladakhi or Lehskat, which is spoken in Leh; Shamskat, which is spoken in the northwest of Leh; Stotskat, which is spoken in parts of the Indus valley; and Nubra, which is spoken in the north of Ladakh. Ladakhi is closely related to Tibetan, though is not mutually intelligible with it. Most letters that are silent in Standard Tibetan are pronounced in Ladakhi. However, the former form is more common and a limited number of books and magazines are published in colloquial Ladakhi.



Nagamese

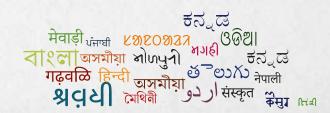


Nagamese, an Assamese-lexified creole language, is spoken natively by an estimated 30,000 people in the Indian northeastern state of Nagaland.

Despite the official language of Nagaland being English, Nagamese functions as a common language that is spoken by nearly the entirety of Nagaland inhabitants. It is also used in mass media as well as in official, state-regulated domains, including news and radio stations, education and political and governmental spheres. In addition to being spoken casually between individuals, it is also used at religious gatherings, within the education system, and within the healthcare system between nurse, doctor, and patient communication.

Nagamese primarily developed as a lingua franca due to the contact in the barter-trade centers in the plains of Assam between members of different Naga linguistic group communicating both with Assamese traders and amongst each other. This contact took place on a regular basis, allowing for the development of Nagamese.

There are 26 consonants, and 6 vowels. There are no nasal vowels in Nagamese, and tone is not a defining trait within it.





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