**Hindi**

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*This article is about Modern Standard Hindi. For other uses, see* [*Hindi (disambiguation)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_(disambiguation))*.*

*Not to be confused with* [*Hindi belt*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_belt) *or* [*Hindu*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu)*.*

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| --- | --- |
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**Hindi** ([Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari): [हिन्दी](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/%E0%A4%B9%E0%A4%BF%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%A6%E0%A5%80), [IAST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Alphabet_of_Sanskrit_Transliteration): *Hindī*), or **Modern Standard Hindi** ([Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari): मानक हिन्दी, [IAST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Alphabet_of_Sanskrit_Transliteration): *Mānak Hindī*) is a [standardised](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_language) and [Sanskritised](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit#Influence_on_other_languages) [register](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Register_(sociolinguistics))[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-Constitution_of_India-8) of the [Hindustani language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_language).

Along with the [English language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language), Hindi written in the [Devanagari script](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari) is the [official language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Official_language) of the [Government of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_India).[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-rajbhasha.nic.in-9) On 14 September 1949, the [Constituent Assembly of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constituent_Assembly_of_India) adopted Hindi written in [Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari) script as the [official language of the Republic of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Official_languages_of_Union_govt_of_India). To this end, several stalwarts rallied and lobbied pan-India in favor of Hindi, most notably [Beohar Rajendra Simha](https://hi.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E0%A4%B5%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%AF%E0%A5%8C%E0%A4%B9%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%B0_%E0%A4%B0%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%9C%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%A6%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B0_%E0%A4%B8%E0%A4%BF%E0%A4%82%E0%A4%B9%7C) along with [Hazari Prasad Dwivedi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hazari_Prasad_Dwivedi), [Kaka Kalelkar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaka_Kalelkar), [Maithili Sharan Gupt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maithili_Sharan_Gupt) and [Seth Govind Das](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seth_Govind_Das) who even debated in Parliament on this issue. As such, on the 50th birthday of [Beohar Rajendra Simha](https://hi.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E0%A4%B5%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%AF%E0%A5%8C%E0%A4%B9%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%B0_%E0%A4%B0%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%9C%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%A6%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B0_%E0%A4%B8%E0%A4%BF%E0%A4%82%E0%A4%B9%7C) on 14 September 1949, the efforts came to fruition following adoption of Hindi as the official language.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-10) It is one of the 22 [scheduled languages of the Republic of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Languages_with_official_status_in_India#Eighth_Schedule_to_the_Constitution).[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-11) However, it is not yet the [national language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_language#India) of [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) because it was not prescribed as such in the [Indian constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_of_India).[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-National_TOI-12)[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-National_PTI-13)

Hindi is the [*lingua franca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lingua_franca) of the so-called [*Hindi belt*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_belt) in India. Outside India, it is an official language which is known as [*Fiji Hindi*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji_Hindi) in [Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji), and is a recognised regional language in [Mauritius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauritius), [Trinidad and Tobago](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinidad_and_Tobago), [Guyana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guyana), and [Suriname](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suriname).[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-auto-14)[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-15)[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-uniw-16)[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-Mau-17) Apart from specialized [vocabulary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vocabulary), Hindi is [mutually intelligible](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutually_intelligible) with [Standard Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_Urdu), another recognized register of Hindustani.

Individually, as a [linguistic variety](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linguistic_variety), Hindi is the [fourth most-spoken first language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_languages_by_number_of_native_speakers) in the world, after [Mandarin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandarin_Chinese), [Spanish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language) and [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language).[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-Nationalencyklopedin-18) Alongside [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu) as Hindustani, it is the third most-spoken language in the world, after [Mandarin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandarin_Chinese) and [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language).[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-19)

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**Official status**

Part XVII of the Indian Constitution deals with the official language of the Indian Commonwealth. Under Article 343, the official languages of the Union has been prescribed, which includes Hindi in [Devanagari script](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari_script) and English:

(1) The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in [Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari) script. The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-auto-14)  
(2) Notwithstanding anything in clause (1), for a period of fifteen years from the commencement of this Constitution, the ***English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union*** for which it was being used immediately before such commencement: Provided that the President may, during the said period, by order authorize the use of the Hindi language in addition to the English language and of the Devanagari form of numerals in addition to the international form of Indian numerals for any of the official purposes of the Union[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-20)

Article 351 of the [Indian constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_constitution) states

It shall be the duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language, to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India and to secure its enrichment by assimilating without interfering with its genius, the forms, style and expressions used in Hindustani and in the other languages of India specified in the Eighth Schedule, and by drawing, wherever necessary or desirable, for its vocabulary, primarily on Sanskrit and secondarily on other languages.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-Constitution_of_India-8)

It was envisioned that Hindi would become the sole working language of the Union Government by 1965 (per directives in Article 344 (2) and Article 351),[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi" \l "cite_note-eighthschedule-21) with state governments being free to function in the language of their own choice. However, widespread resistance to the imposition of Hindi on non-native speakers, especially in [South India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_India) (such as the [those in Tamil Nadu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-Hindi_agitations_of_Tamil_Nadu)) led to the passage of the Official Languages Act of 1963, which provided for the continued use of English indefinitely for all official purposes, although the constitutional directive for the Union Government to encourage the spread of Hindi was retained and has strongly influenced its policies.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-22)

At the state level, Hindi is the official language of the following Indian states: [Bihar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bihar), [Chhattisgarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chhattisgarh), [Haryana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haryana), [Himachal Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Himachal_Pradesh), [Jharkhand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jharkhand), [Madhya Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhya_Pradesh), [Rajasthan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajasthan), [Uttar Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttar_Pradesh), and [Uttarakhand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttarakhand). Each may also designate a "co-official language"; in Uttar Pradesh, for instance, depending on the political formation in power, this language is generally [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu). Similarly, Hindi is accorded the status of official language in the following [Union Territories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Territories): [Andaman & Nicobar Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andaman_%26_Nicobar_Islands), [Chandigarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandigarh), [Dadra & Nagar Haveli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dadra_%26_Nagar_Haveli), [Daman & Diu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daman_%26_Diu), [National Capital Territory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Capital_Territory).

National language status for Hindi is a long-debated theme. In 2010, the [Gujarat High Court](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarat_High_Court) clarified that Hindi is not the national language of India because the constitution does not mention it as such.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-National_TOI-12)[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-National_PTI-13)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-23)

**Outside India**

Outside [Asia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia), the [Awadhi language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Awadhi_language) (A Hindi dialect)[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-24) is an official language in [Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji) as per the 1997 Constitution of Fiji,[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-25) where it referred to it as "Hindustani", however in the [2013 Constitution of Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2013_Constitution_of_Fiji), it is simply called "Hindi".[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-26) It is spoken by 380,000 people in [Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji).[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-ethnologue.com-27)

Hindi is also spoken by a large population of [Madheshis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madheshi) (people having roots in north-India but have migrated to Nepal over hundreds of years) of [Nepal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nepal). Apart from specialized [vocabulary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vocabulary), Hindi is [mutually intelligible](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutually_intelligible) with [Standard Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_Urdu), another recognized register of Hindustani. Hindi is quite easy to understand for some [Pakistanis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan), who speak [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu), which, like Hindi, is part of Hindustani. Apart from this, Hindi is spoken by the large [Indian diaspora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_diaspora) which hails from, or has its origin from the "[Hindi Belt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_Belt)" of [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). A substantially large North Indian diaspora lives in countries like The [United States of America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States), the [United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom), the [United Arab Emirates,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Arab_Emirates) [Trinidad and Tobago](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinidad_and_Tobago), [Guyana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guyana), [Suriname](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suriname), [South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa), [Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji) and [Mauritius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauritius), where it is natively spoken at home and among their own Hindustani-speaking communities. Outside [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India), Hindi speakers are 8 million in [Nepal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nepal); 649,000 in [United States of America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States);[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-28) 450,170 in [Mauritius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauritius); 380,000 in [Fiji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiji);[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-ethnologue.com-27) 250,292 in [South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa); 150,000 in [Suriname](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suriname);[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-bookcitation-29) 100,000 in [Uganda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda); 45,800 in [United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom);[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-30) 20,000 in [New Zealand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand); 20,000 in [Germany](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germany); 16,000 in [Trinidad and Tobago](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinidad_and_Tobago);[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-bookcitation-29) 3,000 in [Singapore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore).

**History**

*Further information:* [*History of Hindustani*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Hindustani)

Like other Indo-Aryan languages, Hindi is considered to be a direct descendant of an early form of [Sanskrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit), through [Sauraseni Prakrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sauraseni_Prakrit) and [Śauraseni Apabhraṃśa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apabhra%E1%B9%83%C5%9Ba). Hindi emerged as [Apabhramsha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apabhramsha) ([Sanskrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit_language): अपभ्रंश; corruption or corrupted speech), a vernacular form of [Prakrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prakrit), in the 7th century A.D.[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-de-31)

Standard Hindi is based on the [*Khariboli dialect*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khariboli_dialect),[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-de-31) the vernacular of [Delhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delhi) and the surrounding region, which came to replace earlier prestige dialects such as [Awadhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Awadhi), [Maithili](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maithili) (sometimes regarded as separate from the Hindi dialect continuum) and [Braj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braj). [*Urdu*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu) – another form of Hindustani – acquired [linguistic prestige](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prestige_(sociolinguistics)) in the later [Mughal period](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_Empire) (1800s), and underwent significant Persian influence. In the late 19th century, a movement to develop Hindi as a standardised form of Hindustani separate from Urdu took form. In 1881, [Bihar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bihar) accepted Hindi as its sole official language, replacing Urdu, and thus became the first state of India to adopt Hindi.[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-32)

After independence, the government of India instituted the following conventions:[*[original research?](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:No_original_research" \o "Wikipedia:No original research)*]

* standardisation of grammar: In 1954, the Government of India set up a committee to prepare a grammar of Hindi; The committee's report was released in 1958 as *A Basic Grammar of Modern Hindi*.
* standardisation of the orthography, using the [Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari) script, by the Central Hindi Directorate of the Ministry of Education and Culture to bring about uniformity in writing, to improve the shape of some Devanagari characters, and introducing diacritics to express sounds from other languages.

The Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as an [official language of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Languages_with_official_status_in_India) on 14 September 1949.[[33]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-33) Now, it is celebrated as [Hindi Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_Day).

**Comparison with Modern Standard Urdu**

*Main articles:* [*Hindi–Urdu controversy*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi%E2%80%93Urdu_controversy)*,* [*Hindustani phonology*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_phonology)*, and* [*Hindustani grammar*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_grammar)

[Linguistically](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linguistics), Hindi and [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu) are two registers of the same language.[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-34) Hindi is written in the [Devanagari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari) script and uses more [Sanskrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit) words, whereas [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu) is written in the [Perso-Arabic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perso-Arabic) script and uses more Arabic and Persian words. Hindi is the most commonly used official language in India. [Urdu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urdu) is the [national language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Languages_of_Pakistan#National_language:_Urdu) and [*lingua franca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lingua_franca) of [Pakistan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan) and is one of 22 official languages of [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India).

**Script**

*Main article:* [*Devanagari script*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari_script)

Hindi is written in the Devanagari script, an [abugida](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abugida). Devanagari consists of 11 [vowels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari_script#Vowels) and 33 [consonants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari_script#consonants) and is written from left to right.

**Romanization**

*Main article:* [*Devanagari transliteration*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devanagari_transliteration)

The [Government of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_India) uses [Hunterian transliteration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunterian_transliteration) as its official system of writing Hindi in the Latin script. Various other systems also exist, such as [IAST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IAST), [ITRANS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITRANS) and [ISO 15919](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_15919).

**Vocabulary**

*Further information:* [*Hindustani etymology*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_etymology) *and* [*List of Sanskrit and Persian roots in Hindi*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Sanskrit_and_Persian_roots_in_Hindi)

Traditionally, Hindi words are divided into five principal categories according to their etymology:

* [**Tatsam**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tatsama) (तत्सम "same as that") words: These are words which are spelled the same in Hindi as in Sanskrit (except for the absence of final case inflections).[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-sirysq-35) They include words inherited from Sanskrit via [Prakrit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prakrit) which have survived without modification (e.g. Hindi नाम *nām* / Sanskrit नाम *nāma*, "name"; Hindi कर्म *karm* / Sanskrit कर्म *karma*, "deed, action; [karma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karma)"),[[36]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-36) as well as forms borrowed directly from Sanskrit in more modern times (e.g. प्रार्थना *prārthanā*, "prayer").[[37]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-37) Pronunciation, however, conforms to Hindi norms and may differ from that of classical Sanskrit. Amongst nouns, the *tatsam* word could be the Sanskrit non-inflected word-stem, or it could be the nominative singular form in the Sanskrit nominal declension.
* **Ardhatatsam** (अर्धतत्सम "semi-tatsama") words: Such words are typically earlier loanwords from Sanskrit which have undergone sound changes subsequent to being borrowed. (e.g. Hindi सूरज *sūraj* from Sanskrit सूर्य *surya*)
* [**Tadbhav**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tadbhava) (तद्भव "born of that") words: These are native Hindi words derived from Sanskrit after undergoing phonological rules (e.g. Sanskrit कर्म *karma*, "deed" becomes [Pali](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pali) कम्म *kamma*, and eventually Hindi काम *kām*, "work") and are spelled differently from Sanskrit.[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-sirysq-35)
* **Deshaj** (देशज) words: These are words that were not borrowings but do not derive from attested Indo-Aryan words either. Belonging to this category are [onomatopoetic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Onomatopoetic) words or ones borrowed from local non-[Indo-Aryan languages](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indo-Aryan_languages).
* **Videshī** (विदेशी "foreign") words: These include all [loanwords](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loanwords) from non-indigenous languages. The most frequent source languages in this category are [Persian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian_language), [Arabic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabic), [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language) and [Portuguese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portuguese_language). Examples are कमेटी *kameṭī* from English *committee* and साबुन *sābun* "soap" from Arabic.

**Sanskrit**

Much of Modern Standard Hindi's vocabulary is derived from Sanskrit, either as native *tadbhav* words or *tatsam* borrowings from Sanskrit, especially in technical and academic fields. The Hindi standard, from which much of the Persian, Arabic and English vocabulary has been replaced by [neologisms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neologism) compounding *tatsam* words, is called *Shuddh Hindi* (pure Hindi), and is viewed as a more prestigious dialect over other more colloquial forms of Hindi.

Excessive use of *tatsam* words creates problems for native speakers. They may have Sanskrit consonant clusters which do not exist in native Hindi. The educated class of India may be able to pronounce such words, but others have difficulty.

**Persian**

Hindi also features significant [Persian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian_language) influence, standardised from spoken [Hindustani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_language).[[38]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-kachru-38)[[*page needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citing_sources)]

**Arabic**

[Arabic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabic) also shows influence in Hindi, often via Persian but sometimes directly.[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-39)

**Media**

**Literature**

*Main article:* [*Hindi literature*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_literature)

Hindi literature is broadly divided into four prominent forms or styles, being [*Bhakti*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhakti) (devotional – [Kabir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kabirdas), [Raskhan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raskhan)); *Shringar* (beauty – [Keshav](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keshav), [Bihari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bihari_(poet))); *Virgatha* (extolling brave warriors); and *Adhunik* (modern).

Medieval Hindi literature is marked by the influence of [Bhakti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhakti) movement and the composition of long, epic poems. It was primarily written in other [varieties of Hindi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_languages), particularly [Avadhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avadhi) and [Braj Bhasha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braj_Bhasha), but also in [Khariboli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khariboli). During the [British Raj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj), [Hindustani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindustani_language) became the prestige dialect. Hindustani with heavily [Sanskritised](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanskrit) vocabulary or *Sahityik* Hindi (Literary Hindi) was popularised by the writings of [Swami Dayananda Saraswati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swami_Dayananda_Saraswati), [Bhartendu Harishchandra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhartendu_Harishchandra) and others. The rising numbers of newspapers and magazines made Hindustani popular with the educated people.

[Chandrakanta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrakanta_(novel)), written by [Devaki Nandan Khatri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devaki_Nandan_Khatri) in 1888, is considered the first authentic work of prose in modern Hindi.[[40]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi#cite_note-40) The person who brought realism in the Hindi prose literature was [Munshi Premchand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munshi_Premchand), who is considered as the most revered figure in the world of Hindi fiction and progressive movement.

The *Dwivedi Yug* ("Age of Dwivedi") in Hindi literature lasted from 1900 to 1918. It is named after [Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahavir_Prasad_Dwivedi), who played a major role in establishing the Modern Hindi language in poetry and broadening the acceptable subjects of Hindi poetry from the traditional ones of religion and romantic love.

In the 20th century, Hindi literature saw a romantic upsurge. This is known as [*Chhayavaad*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chhayavaad) (*shadowism*) and the literary figures belonging to this school are known as *Chhayavaadi*. [Jaishankar Prasad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaishankar_Prasad), [Suryakant Tripathi 'Nirala'](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suryakant_Tripathi_%27Nirala%27), [Mahadevi Varma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahadevi_Varma) and [Sumitranandan Pant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumitranandan_Pant), are the four major *Chhayavaadi* poets.

*Uttar Adhunik* is the post-modernist period of Hindi literature, marked by a questioning of early trends that copied the West as well as the excessive ornamentation of the [Chhayavaadi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chhayavaad) movement, and by a return to simple language and natural themes.

**Internet**

The [Hindi Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_Wikipedia) was the first Indic-language wiki to reach 100,000 articles. Hindi literature, [music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music), and [film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Film) have all been disseminated via the internet.