

CULTURAL HERITAGE OF INDIA WITH EMPHASIS ON 20TH CENTURY

Culture is a central instrument of discovering, integrating and asserting the national identity of India which truly and inevitably pluralistic.

Culture permeates every sphere of human activity, determines and governs life and pattern of Indian society in diverse regions and equality, diverse fields.

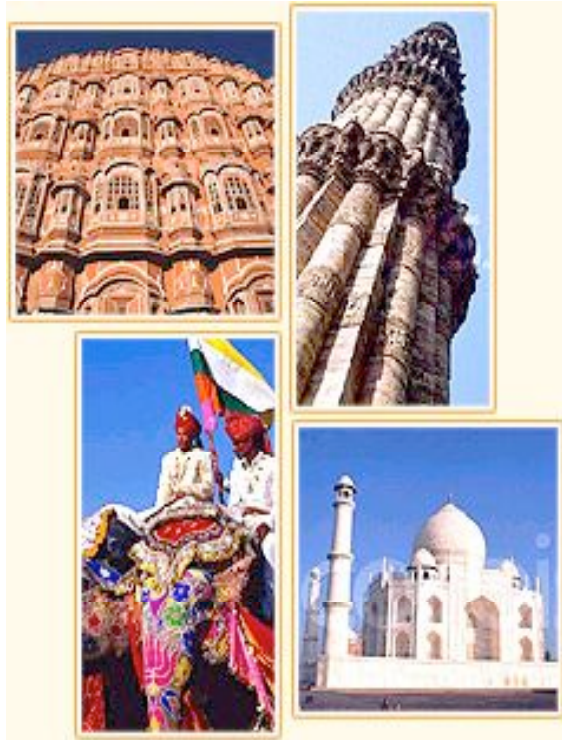
LANGUAGES OF INDIA

India is home to several hundred languages. Most languages spoken in India belong either to the Indo Aryan and Dravidian families of languages though some Indo- European languages are also spoken and understood.

The Indo - Aryan languages including Hindi, Rajasthani, Gujarati, Marathi, Bengali, Oriya, Assamese, Sanskrit, Kashmiri, Sindhi and Punjabi cover about three - fourths of India's population.

The languages of the Southern India viz Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam belong to the Dravidian family.

Of the Indo - European languages, English is the most widely used one.



Official Languages

The Indian Constitution, in 1950, declared Hindi in Devanagari Script to be the official language of the union. It was provided in the Constitution of India that English shall continue to be used for all official purposes of the Union till January 25, 1965 but the complete change over to Hindi was not practicable within the stipulated period. So English in addition to Hindi,

THE LANGUAGES OF THE EIGHTH SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION

22 Major languages are specified in the eighth schedule of the constitution. Those are Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarathi, Hindi, Kananda, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali and Oriya.

continues to be used for all official purposes as an associate official language.

The language of Parliamentary proceedings and laws

According to the constitution parliamentary proceedings may be conducted in either Hindi or English in Parliamentary proceedings was to be phased out at the end of fifteen years unless Parliament chose to extend its use, which parliament did through the Official Language Act, 1963

But the constitution laws including parliamentary enactments and statutory instruments are in English.

Language of the Judiciary

The Constitution provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court of India shall be in English.

MAJOR INDIAN RELIGIONS

India is the land of religions. India being a secular country does not recognise any religion as state religion. The Constitution allows freedom of faith, worship and religion. India is the birth place of four of the world's major religious traditions, namely Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism. The other religions in India are Christianity, Islam, Zoroastrianism, Judaism and the Bahai faith.

Hinduism

It is believed that Hinduism was the oldest religion to come into existence in India. Almost 80% of the population follows the Hindu religion in India. Hinduism is world's third largest religion after Christianity and Islam. Many aspects of Hindu philosophy like Yoga, Ayurvedic medicine, Vegetarianism, Karma and reincarnation have been popularized in the West by Indian Spiritual figures. Hinduism

CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Languages so far declared to be classical based on the recommendation of a committee of linguistic experts constituted by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India are Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada and Telugu (2008)

has a profound philosophy. The sacred tasks of Hindus are the Vedas, Upanishads, the Gita, the Ramayana and the Mahabharatha.

Jainism

Jains form less than one percent of the Indian population. The states of Gujarat and Rajasthan have the highest concentration of Jain population in India.

Jainism rejected the authority of the Vedas and Vedic rituals. It did not believe in the existence of God, but it believe in Karma and the transmigration of soul (Nirvana). The early Jains discarded the Sanskrit language and adopted Prakrit language.

Buddhism

Though Buddhism originated in India, Now there is less than 1% of the India's population 85 percent of all the Buddhists in India are concentrated in Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh and the higher Himalayan habitats of north western India too have some Buddhist population. After originating in India, Buddhism spread throughout the central Asia, Sri Lanka, Tibet, China, Mongolia, Korea, Japan and Vietnam.

Sikhism

About 2% of the total population of India form Sikhs In comparison to other religions, Sikhism is a younger religion. Sri Guru Nanak Dev started the Sikh religion He was the first Guru of the Sikhs. Sikhism which emerged in the 15th Century tried to bridge the gap

between Hinduism and Islam. Though Sikhism is dispersed widely over the entire India, their largest concentration is in Punjab, where they form the majority of the state's population.

Islam

The second most dominant religion after Hinduism is Islam. In India, about 12% of the population follows the Islam religion. Though spread all over all parts of India. The ratio of Muslim population exceeds the national average in Lakshadweep Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and West Bengal. Though the Muslims form only 12 percent of the total population of India, the influence of Islam on Indian society is much stronger. The Muslim population in India is the third largest in the world. The shrines of some of the most famous saints of sufism like Moinuddin Chishti and Nizamuddin Auliya are in India. India is also home to some of the most famous monuments of Islamic architecture like the Taj Mahal and the Qutab Minar.

Christianity

Christianity is the third most dominant religion in India. At present there are about 2.3percent Christians in India. They are highly concentrated in Goa, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Zoroastrianism

Zoroastrianism have an ancient history in India. Though the total number of Zoroastrains (Parsis) in Indian population is very less yet they continue to be one of the important religious communities of India. According to 2001 census, there are about 70,000 Parsis in India. Most of them live in Mumbai and the rest in Gujarat.

BAHA'I FAITH

Bahai's are from various parts of the world. The Baha'i Faith is the youngest of the world's independent religion. India was the 6th country to have the Baha'i Faith introduced to it. Baha'i Faith in India is numerically small and tiny in proportion of the national population. The Baha'i House of worship in Delhi, popularly known as the Lotus Temple is a prominent attraction in Delhi. It was completed in 1986 and serves as the mother temple of the Indian subcontinent.

Judaism

Indian Jews are a religious minority of India. Judaism was one of the first foreign religions to arrive in India. According to the 1991 census there were about 5,271 Jews in India. Of the total Jewish population in India about half live in Manipur and Mizoram and a quarter live in the city of Mumbai. In Kerala a community of Jews are seen in the cities of Kannur (Kodungalloor) and Kochi.

SOCIO - RELIGIOUS REFORM MOVEMENTS OF INDIA

Arya Samaj

Arya Samaj is a Hindu reform movement in India that was founded by Swami Dayananda in 1875. Swami Dayananda Saraswathi rejected all non vedic beliefs. Arya Samaj condemned idolatry, animal sacrifices, ancestor worship, pilgrimages, offerings made in temples, the caste system, untouchability and child marriage. The primary aim of the Arya Samaj is to do good for all, that is promote physical, spiritual and social well being. Now Arya Samaj had set up schools and missionary organizations and extended its activities outside India.

Brahmo Samaj

Brahmo Samaj is a religious movement founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1828. The Brahmo Samaj believed in the existence

of one God, who is omni - present and omniscient. It condemned some of the evil practices of Hinduism like caste system, Sati, Child Marriages etc. Brahma Samaj evoked issues that were common to people all around the Indian sub-continent. The Brahma Samaj has played a significant role in the renaissance of India and the roots of much of the modern thinking in India can be traced back to Brahma Samaj.

The Theosophical Society

The Theosophical Society was founded in the United States by Madam H.P Blavtsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott who later came to India and founded the head quarters of the Society at Adyar near Madras in 1882. The Theosophist movement soon grew in India as a result of the leadership given to it by Mrs. Annie Besant who had come to India in 1893. The Theosophical society was formed to advance the spiritual principles and search for truth known as Theosophy. They recognised the doctrine of the transmigration of the soul.

Prarthana Samaj

Prarthana Samaj was founded in 1867 in Mumbai by Dr. Atmaram Pandurang as an off shoot of the Brahma Samaj. It was later joined by M.G. Ranade and R.G. Bhandarkar. It aimed at removing the evil social customs. It preached the worship of one God and tried to free religion of caste orthodoxy and priestly domination.

Aligarh Movement

Aligarh Movement was started by Sir Syed

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

Ramakrishna Mission is a humanitarian organisation founded by Sri Rama Krishnan Paramahansa's Chief disciple Swami Vivekananda in 1897. The aims and ideals of the mission are purely spiritual and humanitarian and has no relation with politics. The principles of Karma Yoga in Bhagavad Gita are one of the main source of inspiration for the Ramakrishna Mission. The Mission conducts extensive work in healthcare, disaster relief, rural management, tribal welfare, elementary and higher education and culture. The headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission is at Belur Math near Kolkata.

Ahmad Khan to educate the Muslims of the Indian subcontinent after the defeat of the rebels in Indian rebellion of 1857. It had enormous success and had a profound impact on the future of the subcontinent. In 1875, syed Ahmad Khan founded the Muhammedan Anglo - Oriental College at Aligarh as a centre for spreading western sciences and culture. Later this College grew into the Aligarh Muslim University.

Shuddhi Movement

Shuddhi Movement was started by Arya Samaj in early 20th Century to bring back the people who transformed their religion to Islam and Christianity from Hinduism. Islam and Christianity claim divine authority for their Koran and Bible but the Hindus does not put up such claims for Vedas. Founder of Arya Samaj, Dayananda strived to give Vedas the similar degree of supernatural authority. The process of reconverting Hindus from Islam and Christianity was accompanied by a Sanghathan movements, which was launched to unify the Hindus and organise them in self - defence

Young Bengal Movement

Young Bengal Movement was started by Sir Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, teacher of Hindu

College. The supporters of Young Bengal Movement were influenced by the idealy of the French Revolution. They preached the ideals of liberty, equity and fraternity. Derozio's teachings questioned the existing superstitions and age - old beliefs. He taught his followers to live and die for truth. They emphasized on female education and rights of woman. They supported the freedom of press and favoured better treatment for Indian labour abroad.

Dev Samaj

Dev Samaj one of the important religious and social movements in Bengal was founded in 1887 by Satyananda Agnihotri (Pandit Shiv Narayan Agnihotri). Sathyananda Agnihotri initiated the dual worship of himself and God in 1892 and three years later, the worship of God was discarded. The Dev Samaj strongly opposed the caste system and it laid emphasis on maintaining a strict moral standards and a significant moral standard. The Dev Samaj encouraged the education of woman.

The Servants of India Society

The Servants of India Society was formed in Pune, Maharashtra on June 17, 1905 by Gopal Krishna Gokhale. The Society organised many campaigns to promote education, sanitation, health care and fight the social evils of untouchability and discrimination, alcoholism, poverty, oppression of women and domestic abuse. It chose to remain away from political activities and national organisations like the Indian National Congress. Though the servants of India Society declined after the death of Gokhale it still continues its activities with a small membership in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Akali Movement

The Akali Movement was another for Gurdwara Reform Movement. The property and wealth of the Sikh temples were being misused by the Mahants and Priests of the

temple. Mahants considered the Gurudwara as their personal poverty and misused the income of Gurudwara on drinking and loose living. Thus these Mahants used the sacred Gurudwaras to centres for immoral life. Thus Akali Movement was a struggle for freedom and purification of Sikh historical places of worship. It came into full swing from the early 1920's. It produced tremendous and far reaching effects on the social and religious life of the Sikhs and brought them into the political movement for freedom of India.

Kuka Movement

Namdhari Movement popularly known as Kuka Movement was launched on the Baisaki day in April 1857 in Ludhiana District of Punjab by Guru Ram Singh as an offshoot of Sikhism. The Kuka movement marked a significant stage in the development of national consciousness in the country. Guru Ram Singh adopted non - violence and non - cooperation as the two weapons against British. They boycotted British goods, government schools, law courts, mill made cloth etc. They avoided the use of Post Offices and depended upon their own postal system. They adopted their own legal system and rejected the British system. The Kukas had thrice revolted against the British. But the movement was ruthlessly suppressed by the British.

Ahamadiyya Movement

Ahamadiyya Movement is an Islamic religious movement founded in India by Mirza Ghulam Ahamad on 23 March 1889. Ahmadis consider themselves Muslims and claim to practice Islam in its pristine forms. Ahmadis opposed Islamic orthodoxy. Ahamadiyya views on certain beliefs in Islam have been controversial to mainstream Muslims since the movement's birth. In several Islamic countries because of severe persecution and systematic oppression Ahmadis have emigrated and settled elsewhere.

Wahabi Movement

Wahabi Movement was founded by Syed Ahmed in 1820 at Rohikhand. The Wahabi movement condemned all changes and innovations to Islam. Wahabi Movement was revivalist movement which held that the return to the true spirit of Islam was the only way to get rid of the socio - political oppression. The missions of the Wahabi's were mainly concentrated in the region of Hyderabad, Chennai, Bengal, Uttarpradesh and Mumbai. Wahabis played a major part of the Indian freedom movement. During the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, the Wahabis played a notable role in spreading anti- British Sentiments. The British took up brutal measures and many principal leaders of the Wahabi movement were arrested.

MUSIC OF INDIA

Music of India includes variety of folk, pop music, classical music etc. The two main traditions of classical music in India are Carnatic music and Hindustani Music.

Carnatic Music are found predominantaly in the peninsular regions and Hindustani music are found in the northern and central regions. Hindustani music was not only influenced by ancient Hindu musical traditions but also enriched by the Persian performance practices of the Mughals.

Hindustani Music

It was Vishnu Digambar Paluskar and Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande who spread Hindustani classical music to masses by starting schools, teaching music in classroom and devising a standardized grading and testing system. Bhatkhande standardized and universalized the notation system making it easier to spread music.

Dhrupad is an old style of Hindustani singing, traditionally performed by male singers. The great Indian musician Tansen sang in the

Dhrupad style. Dhrupad was the main form of northern Indian classical music but has now given way to Khyal.

Khyal is a form of vocal music in Hindustani music. It was adopted from medieval Persian music. It is special as it is based on improvising and expressing emotion.

Another vocal form Tarana are medium to fast paced songs that are usually performed towards the end of the concert. They consist of a few lines of poetry with rhythmic syllables.

Tappa is a form of Indian semi- classical vocal music. It originated from the folk songs of the camel riders of Punjab and was developed as a form of classical music by Mian Ghulam Nabi Shori.

Thumri is a semi classical vocal form said to have begun in Uttar Pradesh. The lyrics are typically in Brij Bhasha and are usually romantic.

Ghazal is an originally Persian form of Poetry. In India, Ghazal became the most common form of poetry in the Urdu language.

Although Hindustani music clearly is focused on the vocal performance, recently instrumental Hindustani music is very popular than vocal music especially outside South Asia.

Carnatic Music

Carnatic music is a system of music commonly associated with the southern part of India especially. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Carnatic music is completely melodic with improvised variations. Purandara Dasa is credited with having founded today's Carnatic music. He is credited with having elevated Carnatic music from religious and devotional music into the realm of a performing art.

Carnatic music is usually performed by a small ensemble of musicians consisting of a

principal performer (vocalist) a violin, mridangam, and a tamburu.

Today carnatic music is presented by musicians in concerts or recordings either vocally or through instruments.

Important elements of carnatic music

Sruti commonly refers to musical pitch

Swara refers to type of musical sound that is a single note, which defines a relative position of a note, rather than a defined frequency.

Raga - A raga in carnatic music prescribes a set of rules for building a melody.

Tala = Tala refers to the beat set for a particular composition (a measure of time)

PERSONALITIES OF CARNATIC MUSIC

M.S. Subbulakshmi : was a renowned Carnatic vocalist. She was the first musician ever to be awarded the Bharat Ratna. She

also received Ramon Magsaysay Award. Some of the famous works include Suprabhatam, Bhajagovindam, Vishnu Sahasranamam, Hanuman Chalisa etc.

Dr. M. Balamurali Krishna : is a carnatic vocalist, multi - instrumentalist and a play-back singer. He has composed over 400 compositions in various languages like Telugu, Sanskrit and Tamil. Dr. Balamuralikrishna has innovated the whole Carnatic Music system by keeping its rich tradition untouched. He also innovated the tala system. He has won many awards including Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan

Types of Hindustani Music and its meaning

- Dhrupad - Effort from vocal chords and lungs
- Dhamar - Play of Krishna during holy
- Khayal - Delicate, romantic and based on imagination.
- Thumri - Romantic religious literature
- Tappa - Quick turn of phase
- Bhajan - Religious devotional songs
- Tarana - Syllables stung together to set a rhythm
- Sabadas - Sikh religious songs
- Qawali - Indo- Muslim repertoires of songs in groups.
- Ghazal - Independent couplets on love and devotion.

Types of Carnatic Music and its meaning

Ragam

- Tanam- Pallavi - Elaborate rhythmic and melodic variation in unmeasured sense.
- Kriti-Kirthanai - Most popular type which refers to devotional music laced with poetic beauty.
- Varnam - Performed at the beginning of a concert ; a completely composed piece.
- Padam - Slower tempoed love songs referring to the human yearning for the adored god head.
- Javalis - Faster tempoed love songs with direct description of human love.
- Tillana - Meaningful phrases are interspersed with variety of meaningless syllables.

an and Padma Vibhushan and many honorary doctorates from various universities.

Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer is one of the greatest carnatic vocalist of the twentieth century. He is the Pitamaha of carnatic music. Although a traditionalist, he introduced many novelties in the works of composers ranging from Swati Tirunal to Ambujam Krishna. He also popularised rare ragas such as Bhavapriya Salaghabhairavi and Narayanagowla. Semmangudi has received many awards including Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan.

M.L. Vasanthakumari was a Carnatic musician and playback singer for film songs. M.L. Vasanthakumari popularised unfamiliar ragas. She popularised the compositions of Purandara Dasa. She had received many awards including the Padma Bhushan.

MD Ramanathan was a Carnatic music composer and vocalist. He was known for his unique style of singing. He sang with adequate bhava or expression. His style of rendering was very different from the standard format of Carnatic concert. He often deviated from the standard set and sang his own versions.

G.N. Balasubramaniam was a legendary vocalist in the Carnatic tradition. He was the first concert musician to approach the concept of raga alapana in a step-by-step approach. He was also the first major Carnatic musician to moot the idea of Indian music as a single entity rather than separating it into Hindustani and Carnatic Systems. He composed over 100 krithis and invented new ragas.

Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar was a Carnatic music vocalist known for his unique style. His unique style of singing came to be known as the Ariyakudi Tradition.

PERSONALITIES OF HINDUSTANI MUSIC

Bhimsen Joshi was an Indian vocalist in the Hindustani classical tradition. He was the member of the Kirana Gharana. He is famous for Khyal form of singing. He enriched the Kirana Gharana by adding his own distinctive style and adopting characteristics from other Gharanas. He was the recipient of several prestigious awards including Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan. Bhimsen Joshi is renowned for his unique style and mastery over ragas.

Mallikarjun Mansur was an Indian Hindustani classical singer of the Khyal

style in the Jaipur-Atrauligharana. He had received many awards including Padmabhushan, Kalidas Summan etc.

Pandit Jasraj is the exponent of the Mewati Gharana of Hindustani classical music. Pandit Jasraj's greatest contribution to Indian music is his conception of an unique and novel jugalbandhi based on the ancient system of moorchanas, between a male and a female vocalist, each singing in their respective scales and different ragas at the same time. Pandit Jasraj is the recipient of several honors and awards.

Begum Parveen Sultana is an Assamese Hindustani classical singer of the Patiala Gharana. She is among the foremost classical vocalists in India. She is known as Queen of Classical Vocal. She was conferred the Padmashri in 1976.

Kumar Gandharva was a Hindustani classical singer, famous for his unique vocal style. He did not follow any kind of Gharana. He experimented out his own styles. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1990.

Siddheswari Devi was a Hindustani singer from Varanasi. She sang Khyal, Thumri and short classical forms as dadra, chaiti, Kajri etc. Siddheswar's music had all the salient features of the Banaras style such as simple charm, intensity of feeling and effective expression of emotions.

Girija Devi is an Hindustani classical singer of the Banaras Gharana. She sings different general of Hindustani vocal music like Khyal, Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti and Kajri. But her forte lies in singing the poorab and Thumri. So she is called the Queen of Thumri.

Gangubai Hangal was an Indian Hindustani musical singer of the Khyal genre. She belonged to the Kirana Gharana. She was famous for her deep and powerful voice.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND ITS EXPONENTS

INDIAN MUSIC

- Mridangam:** Palakkad Mani Iyer, T.R. Murthy, Guruvayoor Doraiswami, Karaikudi R.Mani, Umayalpuram Shivaraman, Velloor A. Ramabhadran, Mavelikara Krishnan Kutty Nair.
- Sitar** : Ravi Shankar, Mushtaq Ali Khan, Vilayat Khan, Uma Shankar Mishra, Nikhil Banerjee, Raiz Khan, Harashankar Bhattacharya, Budhaditya Mukherjee, Abdul Halim Jaffer Khan.
- Sarod** : Amjad Ali Khan, Ali Akbar Khan, Rajiv Taranath
- Violin** : V.G. Jog, Lalgudi Jayaraman, T.N. Krishnan, Yehudi Menuhin, M. S. Gopalakrishnan, Kunnukkudi Vaidyanathan, Kalyana Krishna Bhagavathar, L. Subramaniam, Chandayya, Kantha Devi, Gajannan Rao Joshi (Hindustani), Zubin Mehta (Western).
- Santoor** : Shiv Kumar Sharma, Tarun Bhattacharya, Bhajan Sopperi.
- Flute** : N.Ramani, Hariprasad Chaurasia, T.R. Mahalingam, Pannalal Ghosh, T. S. Shankaran, Sikkil Sisters
- Mandolin** : U. Srinivas, S. Balamurali Krishna.
- Piano** : Surojeet Chatterji, Kaikhosh Shapurji, Sorabjee.
- Shehnai** : Bismillah Khan, Bagheshwari Gamar, Bade Gulam Ali.
- Tabla** : Alla Rakha, Zakir Hussain, Shankar Ghosh, Abad Mistry, Rimba Shiva, Santha Prasad,

Sheikh Dawood, Sharafat Ahmed Khan, Kishan Maharaj, Ahmed, Tirkuva, Pt. Samta Prasad.

Veena : Chitti Babu, Mysore Doraiswami Iyankar, Azad Ali Khan (Hindustani), Badik Ali Khan, Kumara Swami Iyer (Carnatic), Kalpakkom Swaminathan, Kalyana Krishna Bhagavathar, S. Balachander.

Sarangi : Pandit Ram Narayan, Sultan Khan, Sabri Khan.

Clarnet : Sheikh Mohammed Arif.

INDIAN VOCALISTS

Carnatic : M.S. Subbulakshmi, Balamurali Krishna, Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavathar, Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, M.L. Vasantha Kumari, M.D. Ramanathan, G.N. Balasubramaniam, Ariyakudi Ramaniya Iyyengar.

Hindustani : Bhimsen Joshi, Mallikarjun Mansur, Pandit Jasraj, Parveen Sultana, Naina Devi, Siddheswari, Girija Devi, Kumar Gandharva.

CLASSICAL DANCES OF INDIA

Bharata Natyam is a classical dance form originating in **Tamil Nadu**. In ancient times it was performed as 'dasiattam' by **Devadasis**. Bharatanatyam is popularly called **poetry in**

GHARANAS

Musical dialects based on individual temperaments, vocal capacity and musical aptitude.

Name of Gharana	Place	Founder
Gwalior Gharana	Gwalior	Nanthan Khan
Agra	Agra	Hajisujan Khan
Rangeela	Agra	Faiyyaz Khan
Jaipur Atroli	Jaipur	Alladiya Khan
Kiran Gharana	Avadh	Abdul Wahid Khan

Motion. E. Krishna Iyer was one of those who raised the social status of Bharata Natyam and greatly popularized it. It follows the principle of Natya Shastra. Rugmini devi Arundale gave it a new life and revived it by establishing 'Kalakshetra' at Adayar, Chennai.

Kathak : It is a North Indian Classical dance form. The story of Kathak begins in ancient times with the performances of professional story tellers called Kathakas who recited stories from epics and mythology with some elements of dance. The work of the Maharaj family of dancers (Acchan Maharaj, Shambu Maharaj, Lachhu Maharaj and Birju Maharaj) helped in spreading the popularity of Kathak.

Kathakali : This dance form is from Kerala. Kathakali originated from Ramanattam. Traditionally a Kathakali performance is usually conducted at night and ends in early morning. But now it has been reduced to three hours or even lesser. In Kathakali, the story is enacted purely by the movements of the hands and by facial expressions and bodily movements. The make up of Kathakali artists are Pachcha, Kathi, Kari, Thaadi and Minukku.

Kuchipudi is the classical form of Andhra Pradesh. The dance is accompanied by song which is typically Carnatic music. The technique of Kuchipudi makes use of fast rhythmic footwork and sculpuresque body movements. Kuchipudi is a combination of Natya, Nritta and Nritya.

Manipuri dance is a classical dance from Manipur. The dancers feet never strike the

MARTIAL DANCES

Gatka	Punjabi
Paika	Orissa
Thag Ta	Manipur
Kalaripayattu	Kerala
Choliya	Uttaranchal
Pang Lhabosol	Sikkim

ground hard. Movements of the body and feet and facial expressions in Manipuri dance are suitable and aim at devotion and grace.

Mohiniyattam is a dance form from Kerala. It is considered a very graceful dance meant to be performed as solo recital by women. Maharaja Swathi Tirunal, poet Vallathol Narayana Menon through Kerala Kalamandalam founded by him and Smt.

Kalamandalam Kalyanikutty Amma revived Mohiniyattam.

Odissi :

Classical dance form of Odisha (Orissa). Odissi is the oldest classical dance rooted in rituals and tradition. It is particularly distinguished from

other classical Indian dance forms by the importance it places upon the independent movement of head, chest and pelvis.

Sattriya is a classical dance form from Assam. It was recognized as a classical dance by Sangeet Natak Akademi on November 15, 2000. Sattriya Nritya was usually performed in the Sattras (Assam monasteries) in a highly ritualistic manner by male dancers alone. But in the second half of the 19th Century Sattriya Nritya moved from the monastery to the



metropolitan stage. The core of Sattriya Nritya has usually been mythological stories.

Classical Dance	Exponents
	Kelucharan Mohapatra, Pankaj Charan Das, Hare Krishna Behera, Sonal Mansingh, Kabita Dwivedi, Kiran Sehgal, Madhvi Mudgal, Sharon Lewon, Myrta Barvil. Indarani Rahman, Priyambada Mohanty.
Bharata Natyam	Rujkmini Devi Arundale (of Kalakhestra Fame) T Balasarswathi, Yamini Krishna Murthy, Padma Subramaniam, Mrinalini Sarabhai, Vijayantimala Bali, Leela Samson.
Kuchipudi	T. Balasarswathi, Esther Sherman, Ragini Devi, Indrani Rahman, Swapna Sundari, . Sobha Naidu, Raja Reddy, Radha Reddy, Vempati Chinna Satyam, Satyanarayanan Sharma, Sudha Sekhara, Rajaram Rao, G. Sarala
Kathakali	Mukunda Raja (of Kalmandalam fame), Koppin Nair, V Kunju Kurupu, Gopinathan Krishnan, VN Menon, Kottakkal Sivaraman.
Mohiniattam	Kalyani Amma, Shanta Rao, Roshan Vejifdar, Bharati Shivaji, Kanak Rele.
Manipuri	Jhaveri Sisters, Charu Mathur, Sadhona Bose, Bipin Singh, Rita Devi, Savita Ivkihta, Tandor Devi.
Kathak	Bitju Maharaj, Kalka-Binda Gharana, Kunudini Lakhia, Damayanti Joshi, Rani Karna, Saswati Sen, Roshan Kumari, Gopi Krishna, Sitara Devi, Sambhu Maharaj, Ananda Shankar, Shovna Narayan, Bhandana Mangal, Kulgrani Bhatt, Gitanjali Lal.

FOLK DANCES OF INDIA

Bihu : The Bihu dance is a folk dance from the Indian State of Assam related to the festival of Bihu. This Jogous dance is performed by both young men and women and is characterised by brisk dance steps, and rapid hand movement. Dancers wear traditionally colourful Assamese clothing.

Bhangra is a folk dance conducted by Punjab Sikh farmers to celebrate the coming of the harvest season. The folk dance has been popularised in the western world by Punjab.

Garba is a dance form that originated in the Gujarat region. Traditionally it is performed during the nine-day Hindu festival Navaratri. Either the lamp (the Garba Deep) or an image of the Goddess Durga is placed in the middle of concentric rings and the people dance around the centre, bending sideways at every step, their arms making sweeping gestures, each movement ending in a clap.

Jhoomar is a folk dance performed during the harvest season in Punjab. It is slower and more rhythmic form of bhangra. Though the content of these songs is varied they are usually love with emotional songs too. The Jhoomar is a dance of ecstasy. The dance is performed in circle to the tune of emotional songs.

Gidha is a popular folk dance of women in Punjab. Girls or women form a circle to start performing gidha. All of the them clap their hands and sing small couplets that are humorous and spoken in Punjabi language. Then two or three of them come to the centre and perform the dance. Normally, no musical instruments are accompanied with gidha, except sometimes a dholak.

Ghoomar is a traditional women's folk dance of Rajasthan. It is performed by groups of women in swirling robes, and accompanied by men and women singing together.

Kummi is the folk dance popular in Tamil

Nadu. This is performed by women. The women stand in a circle and dance clapping their hands rhythmically. One of the women leads the singing with a favourable song while the rest take up the refrain. This dance is usually performed during temple festivals, Pongal, family functions etc.

Changu dance is a popular dance form from **Orissa**. It derives its name from a kind of drum called Changu, which invariably accompanies the dance. The dance is performed only by **women**. Men only sing songs, play on the Changu and move with the female dancers with simple steps. The female dancers dance in a half sitting position with swaying and sometimes jerky movements.

Therukoothu is a widely popular folk dance of **Tamil Nadu**. **Therukoothu** commonly occurs during the village festivities and become the centre of all fun, frolic and attention of the folk people. Therukoothu is performed in junctions of the villages. **Only men** take part in Therukoothu even female roles are played by the men folk.

Mayilattom is an artistic and religious form of dance performed in the Hindu temples of **Tamil Nadu**. Mayilattom performers wear costumes from **head to toe like peacock with beak**, that can be opened and closed using a thread and performs specific dances. The performer dances not on his bare foot but **on a tall piece of wood attached at the end of his feet**.

Kavadiattam is a dance performed by the devotees during the ceremonial worship of

Murugan the Tamil God of war. Kavadi itself is a physical burden through which the devotees implore for help from the God Murugan.

Raas or Dandiya Raas is the traditional dance form of Gujarat, India where it is performed depicting scenes of Holi and lila of Krishna and Radha. It is performed during Navaratri evenings.

Chhau dance is popular in Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal. Unlike other dance forms vocal music in Chhau hardly exists. Instrumental music and a variety of drums provide the accompaniment. The Chhau dances are complex combinations of Folk and classical dance.

Yakshagana is a musical dance drama popular in Karnataka. A Yakshagana performance begins at the twilight hours with the beating of several fixed compositions on drums for upto an hour before the 'actors' get on the stage. A performance

usually depicts a story from the Indian epics and puranas. It consists of a narrator who either narrates the story by singing or sings pre-composed dialogues of characters, backed by musicians playing on traditional musical instruments as the actors dance to the music.

Bamboo dance is a tribal dance of Nagaland. This dance form is exclusively performed by girls. They gently jump over the bamboo sticks, which are placed horizontally in parallel spacing over the vertically placed bamboo sticks to form interlace. Two women, who sit on either side of the ground, slide the sticks over the vertically placed bamboo sticks. The dance is accompanied with a rhythmic music from which the dancers adjust their steps.



PAINTINGS OF INDIA

The tradition of paintings has been carried on in the Indian subcontinent since the ancient times. With time, Indian classical paintings evolved to become a sort of blend of the various traditions influencing them.

Indian paintings provide on aesthetic continuum that extends from the early civilization to the present day. In the beginning Indian painting was essentially religious in purpose. But as year passed by Indian painting became a fusion of various culture and traditions. During the colonial era, Western influences started to make an impact on Indian art. By the time of Independence in 1947, several schools of art in India provided access to modern techniques and ideas. Galleries were established to showcase these artists. Indian Art got a boost with the economic liberalization of the country since early 1990s. Artists from various fields now started bringing in varied styles of work. Post liberalization. Indian art thus works not only within the confines to academic traditions but also outside it.

GENRES OF INDIAN PAINTING

Cave Painting : Cave paintings of India date back to the prehistoric times. The finest examples of these paintings comprise of the murals of Ajanta, Ellora, Bagh, Sittanavasal etc. It reflect an emphasis on naturalism.

Madubani Painting : Madhubani painting originated in a small village known as Maithili of Bihar. Initially, the women folk of the village drew the paintings on the walls of their home, as an illustration of their thoughts, hopes and dreams.

Miniature Painting : Miniature paintings are handmade paintings, which are quite colourful, but small in size. The peculiarity of these paintings is the intricate and delicate brush work, which lends them a unique identity.

Mughal Painting : Mughal painting is a particular style of Indian painting, generally confined to illustrations on the book and done in miniatures. It emerged, developed and took shape during the period of the Mughal empire. Mughal painting reflects an exclusive combination of Indian, Persian and Islamic styles.

Mysore Painting : Mysore painting is a form of classical South Indian painting, which evolved in the Mysore city of Karnataka. These paintings are known for their elegance, muted colours, and attention to detail. The Themes for most of these paintings are Hindu Gods and Goddesses and scenes from Hindu mythology.

Rajput Painting : Rajput painting originated in the royal states of Rajasthan. Each Rajput Kingdom evolved a distinct style, but with certain common features, Rajput paintings depict a number of themes, events of epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, Krishna's life, beautiful landscapes, and humans. Miniatures were the preferred medium of Rajput painting.

Tanjore Painting : Tanjore Painting is one of the most popular forms of classical South Indian Paintings. It is the native art form of Thanjavur (also known as Tanjore) city of Tamil Nadu. These dense composition, surface richness and vibrant colours of Indian Thanjavur paintings distinguish them from the other types of paintings. The themes for most of these paintings are Hindu Gods and Goddesses and scenes from Hindu mythology.

Pattachitra : Pattachitra refers to the folk painting of the state of Orissa, in the eastern region of India. 'Patta' in Sanskrit means 'Vastra' or 'Clothings' and 'Chitra' means paintings. The tradition of Pattachitra is closely linked with the worship of Lord Jagannath. The painters use vegetable and mineral colours without going for factory

made poster colours. They prepare their own colours.

Bengal schools of painting : The Bengal School of Art was an influential style of art that flourished in India during the British Raj in the early 20th Century. It was associated with Indian nationalism, but was also supported and promoted by many British art administrators. The Bengal School's influence in India declined with the spread of modernist ideas in the 1920s.

PERSONALITIES OF INDIAN PAINTING

Rabindranath Tagore (1861 -1941) : He started painting from 1893 onwards and emerged as a creative exponent of graphic art in 1928. He had a flair for calligraphy. His paintings and drawings are generally of small sizes. He used dominant black ink lines. Tagore's best known painting, Bharat Mata, depicted a young woman, portrayed with four arms in the manner of Hindu, deities, holding objects symbolic of India's national aspirations.

Abanindranath Tagore (1871 -1951) was a gifted landscape and portrait painter. His first expression of paintings was Radhakrishna series. His set of paintings called Krishnalila (1896) is a synthesis of the Indian and European styles. His Arabian Nights series (1930) is among his most renowned works. He established the Indian Society of Oriental Art in 1907. He advocated the use of Indian themes in modern painting in India. His other important paintings include : The Lovelorn Yaksha, the Omar Khayyam series, A Drop of Tear on a Lotus Leaf, Devadasi, Sun worship etc.

Nandlal Bose (1882 - 1966) was the student of Abanindranath Tagore. He was a staunch nationalist. He preferred oriental rather than western style of painting. He was influenced by the Upanishads, Ajantha Paintings, Mughal Miniatures. He fused these with Chinese and

Japanese techniques. He focused on the different levels of individual creativity and created a new conceptual base for Indian Art. His work Sutte won him a prize in the exhibition of Indian Society of Oriental Arts.

Jamini Roy (1887 - 1972) was a very renowned Indian painter, who was greatly impressed by the kalighat paintings. He used firm and majestic curves in simple forms. His pictures are bold and statre. He used mineral and vegetable dyes popularly used in the villages to identify with the village ethos. He used cloth, wood and other materials in place of the canvas. He is the recipient of the Padma Bhushan Award (1955).

Amrita Shergil (1913 -1941) was one of India's first modernist painters. Her work showed the fusion of the Eastern and Western style. Her painting shows her concern for poverty. She used real models and monochromatic colour at times for her paintings. Some of her famous paintings are Bride's Toilet, Hill women, Siesta, Nudes, Brahmacharis etc. She died at the age of 28.

S.H. Raza (1922) : Syed Haider Raza is an eminent Indian Artist who has lived and worked in France since 1950. His works are mainly abstracts in oil or acrylic, with a very rich use of colour. He was awarded the Padmashree and Fellowship of the Lalit Kala Academy in 1981 and Padma Bhushan in 2007.

M.F. Hussain (1915) is considered as India's leading artist. He paints in black social environment, often using distorted human figures, horses and objects. A times he uses highly violent distortions in form and colour to display emotions. His famous work include Ramayana, Mahabharata, Mother Teresa and images of the British Raj. His works show the influence of Picasso, Gris and Leger.

Tyeb Mehta (1925 - 2009) was a famous Indian painter. His noted works were the 'Diagonal Series' Santiniketan, Kali,

Mahishasura etc. He was part of the noted Bombay progressive Artists Group.

Satish Gujral (1925-) : He is a painter, sculptor, muralist and architect in one. He works with several mediums like paint, clay, ceramic, wood, glass and metal. His dynamic social - realistic paints can be seen in the paintings of partition (revolution) which shows influence of Mexican grotesque distortion. He is one of the few, contemporary artist who is influenced by socio- political events. He is a powerful expressionist. He was awarded Padma Vibhushan in 1999.

Prakash Karmakar (1933) : One of the most original and outstanding painters of contemporary India. The rich inheritance of Indian art and the dynamic spirit of the modern age can be seen in his works. His works showed the fusion of Western and Eastern style at the same time retaining the authentic stamp of his individuality.

Dhiraj Choudhury (1936 -) is an idea - oriented artist with a remarkable capacity to immerse her artistic consciousness into suggested themes. He has held over 75 solo exhibitions in major cities of India, 12 one man shows abroad including France, the United Kingdom, the US, Switzerland and Singapore. He was the only Indian participant in the 1976 Geneva Exhibition of Art. His recent works include a series called “ Love at the threshold of the new Millennium” which has collections like ‘world without love, Love’ and ‘Nothing is beautiful than love’. He had won many awards including the National award of the Lalit Kala Academy.

Jatin Das (1941 -) is from Orissa. He has to his credit formidable works of art produced in the last forty years. His paintings are mainly involved in the expression of ‘the man - women relationship’ and to some extent birds and animals.

Jahar Das Gupta (1942) is a remarkable painter. His drawings and paintings are straight, firm deep - rooted and massive in meaningful message. He had his early training in arts and painting in Shantiniketan. Within a period of three years, after getting his diploma in painting, he organised his first one-man show at Birla Academy, Kolkata.

A. Ramachandran (1935-) is a renowned and gifted Indian painter born in Attingal, Kerala. He is a figurative painter, who was influenced by the murals of Kerala temples and tribal art. He used light and shade technique. As a painter, his strong command over lines, colours and forms create an exciting visual drama. His canvases are vibrant with a sense of teeming, burgeoning life. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2005, and in 2002, he was elected a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Academy.

Raja Ravi Varma (1848 - 1906) : Raja Ravi Varma is considered as one of the greatest painters in the history of Indian Arts. He provided a vital link between the traditional Indian art and the contemporary art. He introduced oil painting in India. Ravi Varma is particularly noted for his paintings depicting episodes from the story of Dushyanta and Shakuntala, and Nala and Damayanti, from the Mahabharata. Raja Ravi Varma was fascinated by the power and forceful expression of European paintings. His paintings are considered to be among the best examples of the fusion of Indian traditions with the techniques of European academic art.



CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES OF UNESCO IN INDIA

The world Heritage Sites in India recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization are 28 as of 2010. The Indian state of Tamil Nadu has the highest number of world heritage site in India. India's first two sites were the Agra Fort and the Ajantha Caves (1983). Over the years, 26 more sites have been inscribed. The latest site inscribed in 2010 was the Jantar Mantar , Jaipur. Of these 28 sites 23 are cultural sites and the other five are natural sites.

Ajantha Caves, Maharashtra (1983)

Ajanta Caves listed under UNESCO World Heritage site are Buddhist caves that were built in two phases. The first phase was built from 2nd Century BC. In the second phase many more richly decorated caves were added to the original group during the Gupta period in the 5th and 6th Centuries AD. The paintings and sculptures of Ajantha are considered masterpieces of Buddhist religious art. As a whole, there are 31 rock cut cave monuments which are unique representations of the religious art of Buddhism.

Agra Fort, Uttar Pradesh (1982) : The Agra Fort is located on the right bank of the Yamuna River. It is built in red sandstone covering a length of 2.5 kilo metres. It encloses several palaces, towers and mosques. It was built starting with emperor Akbar's reign in the 16th Century to that of Aurangzeb in the early part of the 18th Century. Agra Fort is remarkable for the fusion of Persian art and the Indian Art form.

Taj Mahal, Uttar Pradesh (1983) is mausoleum built by Emperor Shahjahan in memory of his wife Begum Mumtaz Mahal. It is set amidst vast Mughal Gardens, which covers 17 hectares of land on the right bank of the Yamuna River. It has an octagonal layout marked by four exclusive minarets at four



corners with a pristine elevation of a central bulbous dome below which the tombs are laid in an underground Chamber.

Ellora Caves, Maharashtra (1983) : Ellora caves are a cultural mix of religious arts of Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism. These 34 monasteries and temples, extending over more than 2 km, were dug side by side in the wall of a high basalt cliff. Dated to 600 to 1000 AD they are a reflection of artistic creation of the ancient civilization of India.

Sun Temple, Konark, Orissa (1984) : It is a 13th Century Sun Temple located on the east coast of the Bay of Bengal in the Mahanadi Delta. It is built in the form of the Chariot of Surya, the Sun god with 24 wheels, and is heavily decorated with symbolic stone carvings and led by a team of six horses.

Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu (1984) : The Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram were built by Pallava kings in the 7th and 8th centuries. These monuments have been carved out of rock along the Coromandel coast. It is known especially for its Rathas or temples in the form of Chariots, Mandapas or cave sanctuaries, giant open - air reliefs such as the famous 'Descent of the Ganges' and the temple of Rivage, with thousands of sculptures to the glory of Shiva.



Kaziranga National Park, Assam (1985) : Kaziranga is one of the last wild abodes in eastern India undisturbed by a human presence. It was first established as a reserved forest in 1908 and declared a national park in 1974. The park has the distinction of being home to the world's largest population of the Great Indian one horned Rhinoceros.

Manas Wild Life Sanctuary Assam (1985): The sanctuary is the habitat of several species of plants and 21 most threatened species of birds. It was declared a reserve forest in 1907 and it became a Tiger Reserve in 1973.

Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan (1985): This park was once a duck hunting reserve of the Maharajas. Today it is one of the major wintering areas for large numbers of aquatic birds from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, China and Siberia. Some 364 species of birds including the rare Siberian Crane, have been recorded in the park. It was declared a national park in 1982.

Churches and Convents of Goa (1986) : These monuments were built by the Portuguese colonial rulers of Goa between 16th and 18th Centuries. These monuments are mainly in the former capital of Velha Goa. These monuments of Goa known as the 'Rome of the Orient' were established by different catholic religious orders. The

monuments are built in laterites and walls plastered with limestones mortar mixed with broken shells.

Khajuraho Group of Monuments, Madhya Pradesh : The temples of Khajuraho were built during the Chandela dynasty of Rajput descent. Of the 85 temples built, only 22 temples have survived in an area of 6sq.km. These temples fall into three distinct groups and belong to two different religions - Hinduism and Jainism. They strike a perfect balance between architecture and sculpture. The temple of Kandariya is decorated with a profusion of sculptures that are among the greatest masterpieces of Indian art.

Group of Monuments at Hampi, Karnataka (1986) : The austere grandiose site of Hampi was the last capital of the last great Hindu kingdom of Vijayanagar. Dravidian temples and palaces abound in Hampi. These won the admiration of travellers between the 14th and 16th centuries. Hampi as an important Hindu religious centre, has the Virupaksha Temple and several other monuments.

Fatehpur Sikri (1986) : It was built during the second half of the 16th Century by the Emperor Akbar. Fatehpur Sikri or the city of victory was the capital of the Mughal Empire for only some 10 years. Akbar experimented both with architecture and art and built a city expressing his ideals and vision. The finest monuments within this area are the Diwan-i-Am, Diwan-i-Khas, Panch House, Panch Mahal, Buland Darwaza and the tomb of saint Shaikh Salim Chisti and one of the largest mosque in India, Jama Masjid.

Group of Monuments at Pattadakal, Karnataka (1987) : The Group of monuments in Pattadakal cover a remarkable series of nine Hindu temples, as well as a Jain sanctuary. In this group of temples, the Virupaksha Temple, built in C 740 by Queen Lokamahadevi to commemorate her husband's victory over the kings from the

South is considered the most outstanding architectural edifice. These temples were built during the Chalukya Dynasty in the 6th Century. The temples represent a remarkable fusion of the architectural features of northern and southern India.

Elephanta Caves, Maharashtra (1987) :

The Elephanta Caves are a network of sculpted caves located on Elephanta Island near Mumbai. The island consists of two groups of caves - the first is a large group of five Hindu caves and the second a smaller group of two Buddhist caves. The Hindu caves contain rock cut stone sculptures dedicated to the god Shiva. The rock-cut architecture of the caves is dated to between the 5th and the 8th Centuries. The caves are hewn from solid basalt rock.

Sunderbans National Park, West Bengal (1987) :

The Sunderbans National Park, the largest estuarine mangrove forest in the world is a National Park, Tiger Reserve and a Biosphere Reserve located in the Sunderbans Ganges River delta bordering the Bay of Bengal in West Bengal. The region is densely covered by mangrove forests, and is one of the largest reserves for the Bengal tiger. It is also home to a variety of birds, reptiles and invertebrate species, including the salt-water crocodile.

Nanda Devi National Park, Uttarakhand (1988) :

It is famous for its meadows of endemic alpine flowers and outstanding natural beauty. It is also home to rare and endangered animals including the Asiatic black bear, snow leopard, brown bear and blue sheep. It was established as a national park on 6 November 1982.

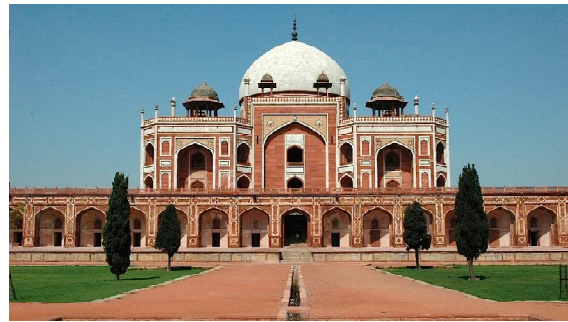
Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh (1989) :

Buddhist Monuments of Sanchi comprises a group of Buddhist monuments, which include monolithic pillars, palaces, temples and monasteries, all in different states of conservation and mainly dating back to the 2nd and 1st centuries BC.

It is the oldest Buddhist heritage site in existence and was a major centre of Buddhism in India until the 12th Century AD.

Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (1993) :

Humayun's tomb built in 1570, is of particular significance as it was the first garden tomb



on the Indian subcontinent. His tomb was built by Haji Begum, wife of Humayun. Apart from the tomb of Humayun, the funerary also has 150 tombs of various members of the royal family. The tomb is built with a four-fold layout with two gates one on the South and the other on the west. It has a number of water channels, a pavilion and a bath.

Qutab Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993):

Qutab Minar and its Monuments is a complex with the Qutab Minar as the centre piece which is a red sandstone tower of 72.5 metres height with a base of 14.32 metres reducing to 2.75 metres diameter at the top. Its construction was started initially by Qutabuddin Aibak and completed by Iltutmish.

Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhi Gaya, Bihar (2002) :

The Mahabodhi Temple Complex is one of the four holy sites related to the life of the Lord Buddha, and particularly to the attainment of Enlightenment. The first temple was built by Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd Century BC. The structures have been built in bricks. The main temple is 50m in height built in Indian architectural style dated between 5th and 6th Centuries. It is the oldest temple in the Indian subcontinent built during the Gupta period.



Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka, Madhya Pradesh (2003) is located in the foothills of the Vindya range of hills in the Madhya Pradesh. It is spread in sandstone formations. The earliest known traces of human life in India were found in Bhimbetka. Stone age rocks shelters and paintings date back to 9000 years are found here.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Maharashtra (2004) : Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus is a historic railway station in Mumbai. It is the headquarters of the Central Railways. The station was designed by Frederick William Stevens. It took ten years to complete and was named “Victoria Terminus” in honour of the Queen Victoria. It was opened on the date of her Golden Jubilee in 1887. The style combines the Venetian Gothic popular in England at the time with elements of Indian architecture and is built in the local red sandstone.

Champaner - Pavagadh Archaeological Park, Gujarat (2004) : A concentration of largely unexcavated archaeological historic and living cultural heritage properties cradled in an impressive landscape which includes prehistoric sites, a hill fortress of an early Hindu capital and remains of the 16th Century capital of the state of Gujarat. The site also includes fortifications, palaces, religious

buildings, residential precincts, agricultural structures, and water installations from the 8th to the 14th centuries. The Kalikamata Temple on top of the Pavagadh Hill is considered to be an important shrine, attracting large numbers of pilgrims throughout the year.

Great Living Chola Temples, Tamil Nadu (2004) : This cultural heritage site includes three great temples of 11th and 12th Century namely, the Brihadisvara Temple at Tanjavur, the Brihadisvara temple at Gangaikondacholisvaram and the Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram. The Tanjavur temple was built by king Rajaraja, founder of the Chola Empire between 1003 and 1010. The Tanjavur temple was built from blocks of granite and in part from bricks. It is crowned with a pyramidal 13 storey tower, the Vimana of 61m height and with a bulb-shaped monolith on top. The Temple of Gangaikondacholisvaram was built by Rajendra I. Its 53 metres Vimana has recessed corners and a graceful upward curving movement. The Airavatesvara temple complex was built by Rajaraja II. It features a 24 metres Vimana and a stone image of Shiva.

Red Fort Complex Delhi (2007) is a palace fort built in the 17th Century by Shahjahan. The architectural design of the structures built within the fort represents a blend of Persian, Timuri and Indian architectural styles. The palace complex has been fortified by an enclosure wall built with red sand stone, hence the name Red Fort.

Mountain Railways of India : Mountain Railways of India include the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, West Bengal (1999) Nil Giri Mountain Railway, Ooty Tamil Nadu (2005), Kalka - Shimla Railway, Himachal Pradesh (2008). These three are outstanding examples of bold, ingenious engineering solutions for the problem of establishing an effective rail link through a rugged,

mountainous terrain. The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was recognised first in 1999, the Nilgiri Mountain Railway in 2005 and Kalka Shimla Railway in 2008. The three together have been titled as Mountain Railways of India.

Jantar Mantar, Jaipur, Rajasthan (2010) :

The Jantar Mantar in Jaipur is a collection of architectural astronomical instruments, built by Maharaja Jai Singh between 1727 and 1734. He had constructed a total of five such facilities at different locations. The Jaipur observatory is the largest and the best preserved of these. It has a set of some 20 main fixed instruments built in masonry.

UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF INDIA INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

India - Chhau dance - Chhau dance is a tradition from eastern India that enacts episodes from epics including the Mahabharata and Ramayana, local folklore and abstract themes. Chhau dance is intimately connected to regional festivals, notably the spring festival Chaitra Parva. Its origin is traceable to indigenous forms of dance and martial practices. Chhau is taught to male dancers from families of traditional artists or from local communities. The dance is performed at night in an open space to traditional and folk melodies, played on the reed pipes mohuri and shehnai. The reverberating drumbeats of a variety of drums dominate the accompanying music ensemble. It binds together people from different social strata and ethnic background with diverse social practices, beliefs, professions and languages.

India - Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan : Kalbelia community's were once professional snake handlers. Today, women in flowing black skirts dance and swirl, replicating the movements of a serpent, while men accompany them on the khanjari percussion instrument and the poongi, a

woodwind instrument traditionally played to capture snakes. The dancers wear traditional tattoo designs, jewellery and garments richly embroidered with small mirrors and silver thread. Kalbelia songs disseminate mythological knowledge through stories, while special traditional dances are performed during Holi, the festival of colours. Transmitted from generation to generation, the songs and dances form part of an oral tradition for which no texts or training manuals exist. Song and dance are a matter of pride for the Kalbelia community.

India - Mudi yettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala

- Mudi yettu is a ritual dance drama from Kerala based on the mythological tale of a battle between the goddess Kali and the demon Darika. It is a community ritual in which the entire village participates. After the summer crops have been harvested, the villagers reach the temple in the early morning on an appointed day. Mudi yettu performers purify themselves through fasting and prayer, then draw a huge image of goddess Kali, called as kalam, on the temple floor with coloured powders, wherein the spirit of the goddess is invoked. This prepares the ground for the lively enactment to follow, in which the divine sage Narada importunes Shiva to contain the demon Darika, who is immune to defeat by mortals. Shiva instead commands that Darika will die at the hand of the goddess Kali. Mudi yettu is performed annually in 'Bhagavati Kavus', the temples of the goddess, in different villages along the rivers Chalakkudy Puzha, Periyar and Moovattupuzha. Responsibility for its transmission lies with the elders and senior performers, who engage the younger generation as apprentices during the course of the performance. Mudi yettu serves as an important cultural site for transmission of traditional values, ethics, moral codes and aesthetic norms of the community to the next generation, thereby ensuring its continuity and relevance in present times.

IMPORTANT MONUMENTS, INDIA

Name	Location	Features
Ajanta Caves	Aurangabad, Maharast	Originally Buddhist monasteries having unique architecture, sculpture and painting.
Elephanta Caves	Island near Mumbai	Consisting of seven caves famous for the Trimurti and other sculptures
Ellora Caves	Aurangabad, Maharast	Ancient cave temples especially famous for ' Temple of Kailash '
Jalianwala Bagh	Amritsar, Punjab	Famous for indiscriminate firing by Gen O' Dyer on April 13, 1919 on Congress meeting demanding independence.
Lothal	Gujarat	Archaeological excavations revealed existence of Indus Valley civilisation
Nalanda	Near Patna, Bihar	Ruins of ancient Buddhist University founded by Kumaragupta in 427 AD
Sanchi	Near Bhopal Madhya Pradesh	Ancient Buddhist monastery famous for ' Great Stupa '
Sarnath	Varanasi Uttar Pradesh	Famous for Stupas where Buddha preached his first sermon

Memorials and Monuments

Akbar's Tomb	Sikandra, Near Agra Uttar Pradesh	Famous for its carvings and architecture of Hindu and Mughal art.
Anand Bhawan	Allahabad Uttar Pradesh	Ancestral house of the Nehru family which Mrs. Indira Gandhi gifted for conversion into a national memorial.
Bibi-ka-Maqbara	Aurangabad, Maharashtra	Mausoleum built by Aurangzeb in 1660 AD in memory of his wife Rabia Durrani.
Gandhi Sadan in 1948	New Delhi	Birla House where Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated
Jamia Milia Kranti Maidan	Delhi Mumbai	Muslim University founded by Dr Zakir Hussain Historical venue where Gandhiji gave Quit India call in 1942.
Rajghat	New Delhi	Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi on the banks of the Yamuna.
Shakti Sthal	New Delhi	Situated on the banks of Yamuna where Mrs. Indira Gandhi was cremated
Shantivan	New Delhi	Near Rajghat where Pt Jawaharlal Nehru was cremated.
Teenmurti House	New Delhi	Residence of the first Prime Minister of India, Pt Jawaharlal Nehru. Now converted into a national memorial.
Tomb of Ahmed Shah	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Domed structure famous for paving of multicoloured marble.
Tomb of Sher Shah Suri Vijay Ghat	Sasaram, Bihar New Delhi	Domed structure Samadhi of Lal Bahadur Shastri on the bank of the Yamuna.

Important Temples and Mosques

Ahmed Shah's Mosque	Ahmedabad	Built in 1414 AD, its pillars have Hindu emblems.
Bodh Gaya temple	Bodh Gaya, Bihar	60 m high temple built by Ashoka, the Great. Site where Buddha attained enlightenment.
Bhubaneswar Temples	Bhubaneswar, Orissa	Stone temples
Dilwara Temple	Mt. Abu, Rajasthan	Jain temple lavishly decorated with carvings.

Name	Location	Features
Golden Temple	Amritsar, Punjab	Sacred shrine of the Sikhs.
Jagannath Temple	Puri, Orissa	Dedicated to Lord Jagannath, an incarnation of Vishnu
Juma Masjid	Delhi	Biggest mosque in India built by Mughal Emperor, Shahjahan
Khajuraho Temples	Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh	Famous sculptures depicting art of love built some time in 950 AD – 1050 AD
Mahabalipuram Temples	Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu	Also called 'Seven Pagodas'
Mahakali Temple	Ujjain	Shiva Mandir
Meenakshi Temple	Madurai, Tamil Nadu	Dedicated to the Goddess Meenakshi
Moti Masjid	Agra, Uttar Pradesh	Built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan
Sun Temple	Konark, Orissa	The mythological conception of the Sun God riding a Konark Temple twenty - four wheeled chariot drawn by seven horses, carved in stone.
Omkar Temple	Omkarji, Madhya Pradesh	Shiva Temple on an island in the Narmada river, also called 'Black Pagoda'.
Other Structures - Gates / Towers / Pillars		
Buland Darwaja	Fatehpur Sikri, Agra	38 m high gate built by Akbar, is India's highest gate
Gateway of India	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Built in 1911 AD to commemorate the visit of King George V of UK
Qutab Minar	New Delhi	72.5m high stone tower, tallest minaret in India built by Qutab-ud-din Aibak.
Gol Gumbaz	Bijapur, Karnataka	as a Victory Tower India's largest dome built on the tomb of Sultan Mohammed Adil Shah covering an area of 1630 sq m
Sanchi Stupa	Sanchi, Bhopal	One of the earliest stupas, 17 m high and 36.5 m in diameter, made of bricks and sandstone.
Sarnath Stupa	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	22m high and 28 m in diameter, stone structure built on the spot where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon.
Important Forts & Gardens		
Agra Fort	Agra, Uttar Pradesh	Originally built by Akbar and additions made by Shahjahan containing famous buildings like Royal Palace Shish Mahal, Moti Masjid, Diwan-i-Aam and Diwan -i-Khas.
Gwalior Fort	Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	One of the biggest forts containing famous building like Man Mandir, Palace of Man Singh, etc.
Hawa Mahal	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Multi-storeyed pink coloured building
Hindodla Mahal	Mandu, Madhya Pradesh	The walls sloping at an angle of over 77° create an illusion that the entire building sways.
Jantar Mantar	New Delhi	Ancient observatory
Red Fort	New Delhi	Built by Shahjahan, made of red stone
Rashtrapati Bhawan	New Delhi	India's biggest residential building
Moghul Gardens	New Delhi	Garden of Rashtrapati Bhawan.
Shalimar Gardens	Srinagar, J & K	Pleasure resort in Kashmir.
Vrindavan Gardens	Mysore, Karnataka	Unique gardens adjacent to the Krishnarajasagar Dam.
Ramanathaswamy Corridor	Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu	India's longest corridor - 1,220 m long.
Gomateswara statue	Sravanabelagola, Karnataka	India's tallest stone statue of the Jain Sage

RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS OF INDIA

Kumbha Mela is a mass Hindu pilgrimage. The normal Kumbha Mela is celebrated every 3 years, the Ardh Kumbh Mela is celebrated every six years at Haridwar and Prayag. The Purna Kumbha Mela takes place every twelve years at four places Prayag, Haridwar, Ujjain and Nashik. The Mahakumbha Mela which comes after 12 Purna Kumbha Mela or 144 years is held at Allahabad. The previous Maha Kumbha Mela was held in 2001.

Holi : Holi is celebrated at the end of the winter season on the last full moon day of the lunar month phalguna which usually falls in the later part of February or March. Holi is celebrated by people throwing coloured powder and coloured water at each other. The bonfires are lit in memory of the escape of Prahlad when Demoness Holika, sister of Hiranyakashipu carried him into the fire.

Maha Shivaratri is a Hindu festival celebrated every year on the 13th night in the Krishna Paksha of the month of Phalguna. The festival is celebrated by going to Shiva Temple, all day fasting and all night long vigil.

Diwali popularly known as the festival of lights. Diwali involves the lighting of small clay lamps to signify the triumph of good over evil. Diwali commemorates the return of Lord Rama along with Sita and Lakshmana from his fourteen year long exile and vanquishing the demon King Ravana.

Navaratri is a Hindu festival of worship of Shakti and dance and festivities. The word Navaratri means nine nights. During these nine nights, nine forms of Shakti or Devi are worshipped.

Vinayaga Chaturthi is the Hindu festival of Ganesha, who is believed to bestow his presence on earth for all his devotees in the duration of this festival. It is the birthday of Ganesha who is widely worshipped as the God of wisdom, prosperity and good fortune.

Guru Purnima is a festival traditionally celebrated by Hindus and Buddhists. Traditionally the festival is celebrated by Buddhists in the honor of the lord Buddha who gave his first sermon on this day at Sarnath, Uttarpradesh, while Hindus on this day offer Puja or pay respect to their Guru.

Thai Pongal is harvest festival celebrated in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Sri Lanka. Thai Pongal is celebrated at harvest time to thank the Sun God and farmstead livestock that helped to create the material abundance. The boiling over of milk in the clay pot symbolizes material abundance for the household.

Raksha Bandhan or Rakhi is a festival primarily observed in North India by Hindus and Sikhs. The central ceremony involves the tying of rakhi (sacred thread) by a sister on her brother's wrist. This symbolizes the sisters love and prayers for her brother's well being, and the brother's lifelong vow to protect her.

Vasant Panchami is a Hindu festival celebrating Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, music and art. Traditionally during this festival children are taught to write their first words; Brahmins are fed ; ancestor worship is performed; the god of love, Kamadeva is worshipped. The colour yellow plays an important role in this festival, in that people usually wear yellow garments.

Karva Chauth is an annual one-day festival celebrated by Hindu and Sikh women in North India in which married women fast from sunrise to moonrise for the safety and longevity of their husbands. Sometimes unmarried women observe the fast for their fiances or desired husbands.

Buddha Poornima : Commemorates the birth anniversary of Lord Buddha. Pilgrims come from all over the world to Bodh Gaya to attend the Buddha Poornima celebrations. The day is marked with prayer meets, sermons on the life of Gautam Buddha, religious

discourses, continuous recitation of Buddhist scriptures, group meditation, processions, worship of the statue of Buddha. The Mahabodhi Temple wears a festive look and is decorated with colourful flags and flowers.

The Dree Festival is an agricultural rite. The rite is observed by the Apatanis in Arunachal Pradesh. It involves the sacrifice of fowls, eggs and animals to the sun and moon god. The purpose of the festival is to appease these Gods so that famine could be avoided.

Christmas is observed on December 25 to commemorate the birth of Jesus. On this day gifts are given, Christmas cards are exchanged, Christmas trees are decorated. There are special prayer and celebrations in Church on this day. Santaclaus brings gifts to children on Christmas.

Ramzan : It is the Islamic month of fasting in which participating Muslims refrain from, eating drinking and sexual relations from dawn until sunset. Fasting is intended to teach Muslims about patience, humility and spirituality. It is a time for Muslims to fast for the sake of God and to offer more prayer than usual.

Muharram is the first month of the Islamic calendar. The pre-Islamic period in the Arabian peninsula was the era of warring tribes. In the absence of a strong leadership, there were conflicts and battles on minor issues. But fighting was prohibited in four months of the year. These months, of which Muharram was one, were considered sacred. Muharram is so called because it was unlawful to fight during this month; the word is derived from the word 'haram' meaning forbidden. The word "Muharram" is often considered synonymous with "Ashura", the tenth day of the Muharram month.

Easter : Easter is the oldest and holiest Christian festival. Easter is the day when Jesus Christ was crucified and the Christians offer prayers and services in the Churches. On this day Jesus Christ rose from the dead and

ascended into heaven. Easter eggs and Easter bunnies are a major attraction during Easter, the festival of rejuvenation of life and living.

MUSICAL FESTIVALS

Chembai Music Festival : Chembai music festival is held annually in Thiruvananthapuram in September in memory of Chembai Vaidyanath Bhagawather. The highlight of the festival is group singing of Saint Thyagaraja's 'Pancharatna Krithis' on Dasami day by several leading artists. A group concert mark the end of the festival on the night of Ekadasi. This includes five of Chembai's most favourite songs.

Dover Lane Music Festival : Dover Lane Music Festival one of the largest Indian Classical musical events is being held in Kolkata every year between January 22 and 26. This festival provides a wonderful platform for the younger generation to come and perform with the best in the art. The music maestros from all over the country get together and create magic in front of an enormous crowd. The people of Kolkata consider this festival as heritage event.

Gunidas Music Festival : An internationally known music festival Gunidas Music Festival was first presented way back in 1977 in Mumbai. Now it is held in Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi every year. Top classical musicians of India, both vocalists and instrumentalists perform in this festival.

ITC Music Festival : ITC Sangeet Sammelan started in 1971. The festival has a participation of eminent musicians. The Sammelan is conducted by the ITC Sangeeth research Academy. It is held in different places in India. A substantial cash award is given to one of the oldest living musicians of stature during this Sammelan. This award is recognised as a great honour in the world of Indian classical music.

Saptak Music Festival : Saptak Music

Festival is conducted on the first week of January in Ahmedabad every year. This festival was inaugurated by Pt. Ravi Shankar in 1980. All leading vocalist as well as instrumentalists participate on this platform regularly. Some of the innovative features of this festival have been instrument and dance ensembles, Tala Vadya Kacheri, Rajasthani and Punjab Folk music. Saptak also tries to keep alive Thumri and Dhrupad and instruments like Sarangi and Pakhawaj by inviting the older generation of artists specialising in these fields.

Savai Gandharva Music Festival : Savai Gandharva Sangeet Mahotsav is celebrated in Pune usually in December. It is held in commemoration of Pandit Rambhan Kundgolkar, the eminent Khyal Singer. His student, Pandi Bhimsen Joshi conducts the festival to observe his Gurus death anniversary. Many eminent classical music artists from all over the country participate in this festival.

Tansen Music Festival : Tansen Music Festival is held in Gwalior in memory of the great musician Tansen, the father of Hindustani Music especially the Drupad style. The festival is held, near the tomb of Tansen at Behat, Gwalior in the month of November/ December every year. Renowned classical singers from the country gather and perform for five night long sessions.

Thyagaraja Music Festival : Thyagaraja Music festival is held in Thiruvaiyaru (situated 13kms from Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu), where the great saint and music composer Thyagaraja lived and attained Samadhi. Here an eight day music festival is held every year towards the end of January. The venue is near his Samadhi on the banks of river Cauvery. This carnatic music festival attracts music lovers from all corners of the country.

Chennai music and dance festival : Chennai music and dance festival is a celebration of classical music and dance of South India held during mid December to mid January in

Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The festival is held at a number of venues around the city by various Sabhas or organisations. Many eminent artists from various parts of India participate in this festival. Performances include vocal and instrumental music, dance - sole, and group, both by Junior and senior artists.

Gharanaa Music Festival : Gharana is an annual festival of Hindustani classical music held in January in Chennai. The festival is usually conducted at Museum Theatre in Egmore, Chennai annually for three days. Many eminent Hindustani music maestros perform in this music festival. The aim of this festival is to initiate South Indian music lovers with the Hindustani music, especially the Dhrupad style.

Ellora Ajanta Aurangabad Festival : It is a festival of dance and music held in November in Soneri Mahal in Aurangabad. This festival showcases a mix of classical and folk - dances, instrumental, vocals milajula mushaira etc. from the best talents in Indian music and dance. India's renowned artists perform their talents in this festival.

Soorya Music Festival : The Soorya classical music and dance festival is conducted for 10 days every years in Trivandrum, Kerala. It starts from 1st October to 10th October. The festival is organized by Soorya stage and Film Society founded by Soorya Krishnamoorthy. Renowned dancers and musicians from all over India participate in this festival.

Swathi Music Festival : Swathi Sangeethotsavam is a week long festival of music celebrating the compositions of Maharaja Swathi Thirunal. The festival is held from 6 to 12 January every year at the courtyard of Kuthira Malika, Trivandrum. The event features Hindustani and Carnatic classical music. The festival is conducted by HH Sri. Rama Varma Maharaja of Travancore Trust.

SOME OF THE TRIBES IN INDIA

Abhor	These tribes are found in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.	Alars	Also known as Chathans or Chatans, these tribes are found in the Kerala-Palghat region. They speak Alar and Malayalam.
Abujmaria	Known variously as Abudjamadis, Abujmariya and Hill Maria, these tribes are found in the geographic illy inaccessible areas of Abujhmar Mountains and Kutrumar Hills in the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh. They speak a Dravidian language called Abujmaria. The Hill Miria tribes are considered as a sub-group oi the Gonds, who are historically the most important group of original Indian tribes.	Amindivi	These tribes are found in Lakshadweep.
Adivasika	These are forest dwellers found mainly in Northern Kerala, near Calicut.	Amri Karib	Known by different names like Mikir, Manchati, Mikiri, Karbi, these tribes are found in the Mikir and Rengma Hills of Assam. They speak Amri, a dialect of Mikir.
Adivasi Girasia	These tribes inhabit 'he Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts of Gujarat and are believed to be the descendants of the Rajputs who married Biil wormn. The name "Girasia" refers to the Rajput and other landholders living in the Gujarat and Rajasthan regions. Their language, also known as Adivasi Girasia, is an Indo-Aryan language belonging to the Bhil subgroup.	Anal	These tribes are found in Manipur.
Adiyan	Also known as Eravas, these people are found in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.	Angami:	These tribes are found in Kohima, the capital of Nagaland.
Aka	These tribes are 5 found mainly in the Andaman Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and also in parts of Assam. The Aka people are so named for a black, sticky paint they use on their faces. They used to speak Aka (now an extinct language) on the Andunan Islands and Aka Lel, a dialect of Nisi, in Assam. The Aka people in Assam celeb -	Ao	The Ao tribe is found in the Mokokchung District of Nagaland. The main festivals of the Aos are Moatsu and Tsungremmong celebrated during the first week of May and August, respectively.
		Apatani	These tribes, also described as Apa, are found south of the Tibetan border in the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland. Their language is also knocwn as Apatani. These tribes are renowned for their cultivation, especially the Terraced rice fields, which are located along the sides of the valleys.
		Arnatas	Also known is Aranacan and Eranadans, these tribes are foud in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. They speak Aranatan and Malayalam.
		Baiga	Known by names like Baigai, Bega and Bhumis these people are found in Bihar, Maharashtra. Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal Their language is also known as Baiga.

Banchharas	These tribes are found in Madhya Pradesh.		Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.
Bangni	The Bangni (also known as the Dafla or the Nishi) inhabit the hills of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Their native language, Nisi, belongs to the Tibeto-Burman language family.	Changs	These tribes are found in the Tuensang District of Nagaland.
Bangri	These tribes are located mainly in the states of Haryana, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi. Their language, Bangaru, is a member of the Indo-Aryan language family.	Chang-Pas	These are the tribes found in the northern upland valleys of the Indus River in Jammu & Kashmir. They speak in Tibetan dialect.
Banjaras	Known by different names in different places like Lamani, Lambadi, Bangala, Banjori, Banjuri, Gohar-Herkeri, Goola, Gurmarti, Kora, Labhani Muka, Lambara, Lavani, Lemadi, Lumadale, Sugali, Tanda, Vanjari, Waji, Gormati and Singali, these tribes are mainly concentrated in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra Karnataka, Orissa and West Bengal. Their common language is Lamani.	Charan	These tribes are found in Gujarat.
Barda	These tribes are found in Gujarat.	Chekhasang	Chekhasang and Pouchry Tribes are found in the Phek District of Nagaland. Chakhesang culture and customs are quite different from the other Naga tribes. There are evidences of the existence of head-hunting among the villagers in the ancient days.
Bavacha	These tribes are found in Gujarat.	Chenchus	Known variously as Chenchucoolam, Chenchwar, Chenswar and Choncharu, these tribes are found primarily in the state of Andhra Pradesh and also in parts of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa. Their native language (also-called Chenchus) belongs to the Dravidian language family. Many also speak Telugu.
Barel	The Barel are considered to be the sub-group of Bhils. They speak Barel language.	Cheros	These tribes, which claim to be the descendants of the Rajputs, are found in Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and are primarily concentrated in Palamau, Shahabad, Champaran and other surrounding districts. The Chero speak a language that is also called Chero.
Bathudi	The Bathudis live primarily in the districts of Mayurbhanj	Chettier	Chettie' is the Hindu fishermen caste of Tamil Nadu.
Chamars	These tribes are known by different names like Chamari, Chambhar Boli and Chambhari. These are found in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Their language is known as Chamari.	Chola Naickans	Also known as Chola Naikar, these tribes are found mainly in the Nilambur jungle in Kerala. They speak Canarese, a dialect of Kannada.
Chameali Pahari	The Chameali Pahari tribes are primarily located in the states of	Dafla	These tribes are found in Arunachal Pradesh.

Damarias	These tribes are found in Rajasthan.	Gamti	This is one of the Bhil tribes that live mainly in the Surat and Broach districts of Gujarat, India. Among the Bhil, the word gamta means "headman," possibly giving the Gamti a feeling of superiority over other Bhil tribes. They speak Gamti, which is one of the Bhil languages.
Deori	These tribes live along the Brahmaputra River and are primarily located in the states of Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. They speak a Tibeto-Burman language that is also called Deori. The Deori are one of the four division of the Chutiya people group and are also related to the Eastern Bodo-Garo.	Garhwali	The Garhwali or the Central Pahari are a hardworking and often isolated people who are primarily located in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.
Dhodia	The Dhodia are located in the extreme southeastern districts of Gujarat, in the hilly regions south of the Tapi River and in Dadra & Nager Haveli. The Dhodia are the highest ranking tribe and the third largest tribal group in Gujarat. They speak Dhodia, a Bhil language.	Garos	The Garos or Achiks belong to the Bodo family of the Tibeto-Burman race and are found in Meghalaya. They are said to have migrated from Tibet.
Dhurwa	These tribes are forest dwellers found mainly in the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh and Koraput district of Orissa. They are considered as a sub-group of the Gond, the largest tribal group in India. They speak Parji in three dialects.	Gonds	The Gonds comprise the largest tribal group in India. Historically, the Gonds were the most important group of the original Indian tribes. In the 1500's, several Gond dynasties were established and their rajas or kings ruled like Hindu princes. The Gonds were conquered by the Muslim armies in 1592 but their tribes were not disturbed by the changes in administration.
Dimasa	These are Proto-Austroloid tribes found in Meghalaya and Mizoram	Gongte	These tribes are found in Manipur.
Eravallan	These tribes are found in Kerala.	Gosains	These tribes are found in Madhya Pradesh.
Gaddi	Known by names like Bharmauri Bhadi, Pahari Bharmauri, Panchi Brahmauri Rajput, Gaddyal and Gadi, these tribes are found in parts of Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. Their language is also known as Gaddi.	Gotte	These tribes, also known as Podia Koya, are found in the jungles of Madhya Pradesh. Their language is Podia Koya, which is a dialect of Koya.
Galong	These tribes, also known as Gallong, Gallo, Galo and Adi-Galo, live in Assam, along the Tibet border area. Their language is also known as Galong.	Gracias	These tribes, known by different names like Garasia, Rajput Girasia, Dungri Grasia and Dhungri Bhili are found in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Their language is known as Garasia
Gamit	These tribes are found in Karnataka.		

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Lalit Kala Academy

- Established in 1954. Headquarters: New Delhi. Since its inception, the Academy has been organising national exhibition of contemporary Indian art with 15 national awards, each of Rs. 50,000. Every three years, the Academy also organises Triennial India, an International exhibition of contemporary art in New Delhi.
- Regional Centres : Chennai, Lucknow, Kolkata and Bhubaneshwar and Garhi Artist Studies, Delhi.
- The Academy honours eminent artists and art historians every year by electing them as fellows of the Academy. To propogate Indian art outside, the Academy regularly participates in International Biennials and Triennials abroad and also organises exhibitions of works of art from other countries. To foster contracts with artists from outside, it sponsors exchange of artists with other countries under the various cultural exchange programmes and agreements of the Government.
- The present chairman of Lalit Kala Academy: Ashok Vajpyee.

Sangeet Natak Academy

It was established on January 28, 1953 by a resolution of the Ministry of Education headed by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad signed on 31st May 1952. Headquarter – New Delhi;

The Sangeet Natak Academy - India's National Academy for Music, Dance and Drama – is the first Academy of the Arts, set up by the Republic of India. It encourages the forms of Dance, Drama and Music, offers Scholarships to Artists and Teachers of traditional arts and gives awards to outstanding Artists. The Academy Awards are the highest National recognition conferred on participating artists. The

Academy also confers Fellowships to Scholars, their numbers being restricted to 30 living recipients. The Fellowship and Awards carries a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 a shawl and 'Tamrapatra'.

- The present chairperson of Sangeet Natak Academy - Ram Nivas Mirdha

Sahitya Academy

- Sahitya Academy is the Indian National Academy of letters meant to promote the cause of Indian literature through publications, translations, seminars, workshops, cultural exchange programmes and literary meets organised all over the country.

The Academy was founded in March 1954 as an autonomous body fully funded by the Department of Culture. The Academy has recognised 24 languages. It has an Advisory Board for each of the languages that suggests various programmes and publications in the concerned languages. Its head office is in New Delhi.

- The highest honour conferred by the Academy on a writer is by electing him its fellow. This honour is reserved for the 'Immortals of Literature' and limited to 21 at any given time.
- The present Chairman of Sahitya Academy is Sunil Gangopadhyay.

National School of Drama

It is one of the foremost theatre institutions of the World and the only one of its kind in India. It was set up by Sangeet Natak Academy in 1959, later in 1975 it became an autonomous body, totally financed by Department of Culture. The objective of NSD is to train students in all aspects of theatre, including Theatre History Production, Scene Design, Costume Designs, Lighting, Makeup etc. The training course at NSD Art and Culture is of three years duration. Each year, 20 students are admitted to the course.

? **Archaeological Survey of India**

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was established in 1861. It functions as an attached office of the Department of Culture. Under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1958, the ASI has declared 3,612 monuments to be of national importance in the country. Since its establishment one hundred and forty two years ago, the ASI has grown into a large organisation with an all India network of offices, branches and circles. Conservation, preservation and maintenance of the Centrally protected monuments and sites are the prime tasks of ASI. The major activities of the Archaeological Survey of India are:

- i) Maintenance, conservation and preservation of Centrally protected monuments/sites and remains;
- ii) Conducting archaeological explorations and excavations;
- iii) Chemical preservation of monuments and antiquarian remains;
- iv) Architectural survey of monuments;
- v) Development of epigraphical research and publications;
- vi) Setting up and re-organisation of site museums and
- vii) Training in Archaeology.

? **National Archives of India**

The National Archives of India is the official custodian of the non-current records of the Government of India and is holding them in trust for the use of administrators and scholars. It is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Culture. It was set up in March 1891 in Calcutta (Kolkata) as the Imperial Record Department and subsequent to the transfer of the National Capital from Calcutta to New Delhi in 1911. It has a Regional Office at Bhopal and three record centres at Bhubaneswar, Jaipur and Pudducherry.

SUBORDINATE OFFICES

? **Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata**

The Anthropological Survey of India's contribution for understanding the people of India by its coverage of the entire length and breadth of the country and its human surface in the People of India project, its publications and ethnographic films have been widely used and acknowledged all over the world.

Since its inception, it has been involved in studying the bio-cultural profile of Indian populations for over half a century, from its headquarters in Kolkata and seven regional centers spread over the length and breadth of the country.

Three main thrust areas of research in the Anthropological Survey of India are:

- ❑ Understanding and documenting socio-cultural aspects of the People of India including audio-visual documentation, collection and preservation of museum arte-facts
- ❑ Understanding the physical and biological variation among the people of India through established methods and also the new technologies.
- ❑ Understanding pre-historic, paleo-anthropological and linguistic aspects of the people of India

? **Indira Gandhi National Centre For the Arts - New Delhi**

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is a premier national institution engaged in the pursuit of knowledge on arts and culture and in the exploration of relationships of arts and culture with various disciplines of learning and diverse aspects of life. It was established in 1985 in the memory of the Late Prime Minister Smt to Indira Gandhi. The IGNCA promotes interaction and understanding between diverse communities, regions, social strata, and between India and other parts of the world. The IGNCA has been designated

as a nodal agency for setting up a National Data Bank on Arts, Humanities and Cultural Heritage.

? **Indian Society of Oriental Art**

Set up in Kolkata, it promotes knowledge of ancient and modern Indian and oriental art; collects objects of art; holds exhibitions, lectures seminars etc. it also researches and study. It has a collection of rare and modern ,art books.

? **Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

It was founded on 9 April 1950 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India. An autonomous body to establish and promote cultural relations and exchanges between India and other countries. It has overseas offices at Suva (Fiji), San Francisco (US), Georgetown (Guyana). It organises Nehru Memorial award for International Understanding. It has established cultural centers for Indians abroad.

? **Indian Council of Historical Research**

It enunciates and implements a national policy of historical research and encourages scientific writing of history. It gives grants for seminars, research activities, and publications in the field of history. It maintains a large and expanding library cum documentation centre exclusively for researchers and scholars.

? **Indian Institute of Islamic Studies**

Set up in 1963, at New Delhi, its main objects are to promote the study of Islamic culture and civilization, to promote intercourse between scholars and institutions engaged in Islamic studies in different countries and focus on India's contribution to Islam. It has 5000 plus manuscripts in Arabic and Persian.

? **National Gallery of Modern Art**

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi was founded in 1954. The main aim of the NGMA is the promotion and development of contemporary Indian Art. The NGMA's important collections include

paintings, sculpture, graphic arts and photographs. NGMA organizes exhibitions from its collection and under Cultural Exchange programme periodically. The foremost responsibility of the NGMA is the ensure quality and to set and maintain standards of excellence.

? **National Mission for Manuscripts**

The National Mission for Mansuscripts was launched in February, 2003 by the Ministry of Culture to save the most valuable of our cultural inheritance, i.e., manuscripts. The mission seeks to unearth and preserve the vast manuscript wealth of India. An ambitious five year project, the Mission seeks not merely to locate catalogue and preserve India's manuscripts but also to enhance access, spread awareness and encourage their use for educational purpose.

MUSEUMS

National Museum

Established : 15th August 1949, functioning as a Subordinate Office under Ministry of Culture since 1960, formally inaugurated on 18 December 1960.

Location : In the Darbar Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.

Activities: Acquisition of art objects, their exhibition and conservation. Coordinates the 'Festival of India' in various countries. It has now 26 galleries with new addition of Buddhist Art gallery, Decorative Arts gallery, Jewellery Gallery, Tanjore and Mysore School of Painting, Evolution of Indian Scripts and Coins Gallery etc.

Indian Museum

Established: 2nd February 1814, Location: Kolkata

It is the ninth oldest regular museum of the world, a second oldest institution of its kind in the Asia Pacific Region and repository of the largest museum objects in India. It has

more than 1 million exhibits having the richest collection on Art, Archeology, Anthropology, Geology, Zoology and Botany.

Allahabad Museum

Established : 1931 (declared as an institution of national importance by the Central Government in 1985)

It preserves and displays Historical Art and Archaeological objects like sculptures, painting, rare coins of gold, silver, copper and lead. It also has paraphernalia and family heirlooms of the Nehrus, including manuscripts of 'An Autobiography' by Jawaharlal Nehru and a large volume of his correspondence.

? **National/Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology**

The National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi, an autonomous organization fully funded by the Ministry of Culture was established and declared a Deemed University in 1989. This is the only Museum University in India and is presently functioning at the first floor of national Museum, New Delhi.

LITERARY ORGANISATIONS

□ **National Book Trust**

Set up in 1957, its work is to produce and encourage the production of good literature and make it available at cheaper rates. It subsidizes the publication of university level text book written by Indian authors. It organizes national book fairs and regional book fairs.

- **National Educational Resources Centre (NERC)** The centre was established in 1972 and is also known as **Raja Rammohan Roy National Educational Resource Centre**. Its main function is to promote Indian Authorship, Indigenous production of University Level Books and to provide Documentation and Statistical analysis of printed material. It ranks 3rd in the world after USA and UK in the publishing of English books.

□ **Asiatic Society**

Asiatic Society, Kolkata, was founded in 1776 by **Sir William Jones** (1764 - 1794) an eminent indologist, with the objective of inquiring into the History, Science, Arts and Literature of Asia. It has contributed to the growth and development of most of the major Antiquarian, Scientific and Literary institutions of India. Its historic importance was recognized and the government declared it an institution of "**National Importance**" in 1984.

The society maintains a museum which contains approx. 47000 manuscripts in various languages. With its library of printed books, archives and the collection of manuscripts, it is one of the leading centres of study of indology in the world.

? **National Library, Kolkata**

The National Library, Kolkata was established in 1948 with the passing of the imperial Library (Change of Name) Act, 1948. The basic functions of the Library, which enjoys the status of an institution of national importance, are: (1) Acquisition and conservation of all significant production of printed material as well as of manuscripts of national importance, (ii) Collection of printed material concerning the country, no matter where this is published; (iii) Rendering of bibliographical and documentary services of current and retrospective material, both general and specialised (iv) Acting as referral centre, purveying full and accurate knowledge of all sources of bibliographical information and Participation in international bibliographical activities; and (v) Acting as a centre for international book exchange and internal loan.

? **Central Reference Library, Kolkata**

The Central Reference Library is a subordinate office of the Department of Culture at present under the ministry of Culture, Government of India. This institution has been carved out of the National Library in order to

compile the Indian National Bibliography after the promulgation of the delivery of books act, 1954.

? **State Central Library, Mumbai**

Established in 1804, the Asiatic Society focuses on study and research in languages, philosophy, arts and natural & social sciences on Asia in general and India in particular. Besides a museum, the Asiatic Society maintains a state central library. The Asiatic Society of Bombay is a public state library in the city of Mumbai. It was established in 1803 as "The Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch." The society, founded by Sir James Mackintosh was known as the Literary Society of Bombay, and first met on November 26, 1830. It was later moved to the present Tower Hall building which was built in 1804. The library is currently run on an annual grant by Maharashtra.

? **Central Secretariat Library, Delhi**

The Central Secretariat Library (CSL) originally known as Imperial Secretariat Library, Kolkata was established in 1891. Since 1969 the Library has been housed at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. It has a collection of over seven lakh documents mainly on Social Sciences and Humanities. It is a depository of Indian Official Documents, Central Government and has a strong collection of State Government: documents also.

? **Connemara Public Library, Chennai**

Connemara Public Library at Chennai is one of the four National Depository libraries, which receive a copy of all books, newspapers and periodicals published in India. Established in 1890 the library is a repository of centuries old publications, wherein lie some of the most respected works and collections in the country. It also serves as a depository library for the UN.

? **Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur**

The Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library is one of the few medieval libraries that exist in the world. It is an unbounded repository of culture and inexhaust-

ible treasure-house of knowledge built up by the successive dynasties of Nayaks and Marathas of Thanjavur. It contains very rare and valuable collection of manuscripts on all aspects of art, culture and literature The En-

Some Important Institutes

- Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manava Sangrahalaya, Bhopal
- National Mission for Manuscripts, Delhi
- Allahabad Museum, Allahabad
- Asiatic Society, Kolkata
- Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Jammu and Kashmir
- Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (CIHTS)
- Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, New Delhi
- Delhi Public Library, Delhi
- Gandhi Samriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi
- Indian Museum, Kolkata
- Kalakshetra Foundation, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai
- Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata
- National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata
- National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (MMIHACM), Delhi
- Nav Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar
- Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi (Teen Murti Bhavan)
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata
- Raza Library, Rampur
- Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad
- Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore
- Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata

cyclopedia Britannica in its survey of Libraries of world mention this as "the most remarkable library in India."

? **Raza Library, Rampur**

The Rampur Raza Library is a treasure house of Indo Islamic learning and Art. It was founded by Nawab Fatzullah Khan in 1774 AD. His descendants continued to enrich the collection. After the independence and merger of Rampur State in the Union of India, the library was brought under the management of a Trust till the Govt. of India took over the library on 1st July 1975 under the Act of Parliament which declared it as an institution of National importance. Its affairs are managed by the Rampur Raza Library Board whose Chairman is the Governor of U.P.

THEATRE IN INDIA

India has longest and richest tradition in theatre. The origin of Indian theatre is closely related to ancient rituals and seasonal festivities of the country. Theatre of India began with Rigvedic dialogue hymns during the vedic period. Bhartamuni's Naya Shastra describes ten classification of drama ranging from one act to ten acts. To Bharata Muni the playwright, the director and the actor were inseparable in the creation of a drama. The Indian theatre can be divided into three distinctive kinds, the classical or the Sanskrit theatre, the traditional or the folk theatre and the Modern theatre.

It is difficult to determine the precise origin of the Sanskrit theatre. Fragments of the earliest known plays have been traced to the 1st century AD. The earliest phase of Sanskrit theatre includes the writing and practice of theatre upto about 1000 AD. Sanskrit theatre is an amalgamation of the religious, educational and entertaining elements.

Folk or traditional theatre was the second phase of the evolution of theatre in India. The Folk theatre was mainly narrative or vocal without any complicated gestures or movements and elements of dance. Indian Folk

Theatre was broadly divided into Ritual Theatre and Theatre of Entertainment. The two forms thrived together, mutually influencing each other.

Puppet Theatre

In Puppet Theatre various forms, known as Puppets are used to illustrate the narratives. There are different kinds of puppets of glove string, rod and shadow. The glove puppets are found mainly on Orissa, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. These puppets are worn on the hand and the puppeteer manipulates their heads and arms with his fingers. String puppets are found in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. In this, the stress is more on the manipulative skill of the puppeteer.

Shadow Theatre

Shadow Theatre is a unique kind of performing art which is close to puppetry. In puppet theatre the audience directly sees the puppet figures but in shadow theatre they only see the shadow cast on the screen. There is light source and a screen and in between the manipulator inserts the flat figures by lightly pressing them on the screen so that the sharp shadow is formed. Usually the figure in the shadow theatre are made of leather. They are carefully stenciled so that their shadows suggest their clothing, Jewellery etc. Shadow theatre is prevalent in the states of Orissa, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Modern Theatre in India

The Modern Theatre developed when the political set up in India changed. The seeds of modern theatre were sown with the coming of British in India. They introduced their brand of theatre in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The initial purpose of the British was to provide entertainment for the British soldiers and citizens trying to acclimatize themselves to a foreign country. Initially most dramatic works

were composed in three languages - Bengali, Tamil and Marathi. But later plays began to be written in other languages.

Bengali Theatre

The beginning of modern Indian Theatre can be traced to the building of the Calcutta theatre in 1779. The foundation of modern theatre in India was laid by the efforts of many theatre lovers in Calcutta. By the mid 19th century, the rich young Bengalis of Calcutta started to write plays based on British, naturalistic models, interweaving them with Indian music and songs. By the last quarter of the 19th Century, public theatres managed by Indian artists were established. Private theatre came into being in Calcutta. The Bengali stage assimilated the western ideas by adapting freely from Greek, English and French sources. *Belagachia Natyashala* built in 1858 became the centre of theatrical activity in Calcutta and produced great plays. The period between 1830 - 1872 can be rightly termed as the age of amateur theatricals of Bengal. With the founding of Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA), theatre became even close to the people by focussing on contemporary political and social issues of concern to them. Theatre continued to flourish in Bengal as a result of the dedicated efforts of Girish Chandra Ghosh, D.L. Roy, Rabindranath Tagore, Utpal Dutt, Balraj Sahani, Habib Tanvir and several others. In the post independence period the Bengal theatre witnessed a marked change in style with the coming on to scene of great play wrights like Badal Sarkar, Mohit Chatterjee, Arun Mukherjee and others.

POST INDEPENDENCE THEATRE IN INDIA

In the middle of the 19th Century the western literature and the feelings of nationalism and pride of the glorious past of country equally influenced Indian Theatre. Indian theatre and drama got a new footing, when Sangeet Natak Academy was started in January 1953. Later

the National School of Drama did much for the growth and promotion of Modern Indian Theatre.

In the 1960s, by suitable mixing of various styles and techniques from Sanskrit medieval folk and western theatre, the modern Indian theatre was given a new, versatile and broader approach at every level of creativity. The year 1972 turned out to be a landmark for the Indian Vernacular Theatre when Vijay Tendulkar's Marathi play 'Ghashiram Kotwal' made waves by its brilliant use of traditional folk forms in modern contemporary theatre.

Manjula Padmanabhan was the first Indian to earn international acclaim with her play 'Bitter Harvest', which won the highest Greek honour. Another talented upcoming play wright is Mahesh Dattani, who has produced thirteen plays. Although the emergence of Cinema had given a set back to the popularity of theatre as the main medium of popular entertainment, several film personalities themselves had contributed for the growth and promotion of theatre. They include, Vijaya Menta, Dr. Shriram Lagoo, Girish Karnad, Pearl Padmasec, Amol Palekhar, Shashi Kapoor, Naseeruddin Shah, Shabana Azmi and some others.

Theatre continues to attract a new breed of young and talented actors, directors and playwrights. Anahita Uberoi, who is the daughter of the legendary Marathi theatre artist. Vijay Mehta is one such upcoming and talented theatre personality. Sanjana Kapoor, daughter of Shashi Kapoor, is another such artists who manages the Prithvi Theatre and provides a platform to several newcomers. Chetan Datar is a young and acclaimed playwright and director of Marathi Theatre. Rajat Kapoor is one of the famous theatre personality who is associated with Chingari, a leading theatre group of Delhi. Rael Padamsee, the daughter of Alyque and Pearl Padamsee, has a fancy for producing plays targeted at young kids. She draws the stars mainly from her im-

mensely popular 'Little Actors Club', which trains pre- teens for professional acting.

The All India Radio was instrumental in popularising drama for a long time through its national and regional broadcasts. The television also provided much support to the theatre artists by way of Tele - serials and Mega - Serials and Soap Operas. However, today there are relatively few commercial theatre companies in India. Some serious theatre groups like the Indian National Theatre, the Prithvi Theatre, Chingari and others are contributing greatly to popularise theatre. Some of these companies, like the Prithvi Theatre have gone online, making themselves known globally by utilizing the explosion in the information technology.

FAMOUS THEATRE PERSONALITIES OF INDIA

Alyque Padamsee

Alyque Padamsee, known as the 'Communications Guru of India' has immensely contributed to the advertising industry and the world of theatre. As theatre director he staged as many as 63 plays in 50 years, with several of them becoming box office hits. He has also produced plays like 'Evita, Tuqlaq, and Jesus Christ Super Star'.

Feroz Khan

Ferozkhan is another accomplished playwright who has to his credit several outstanding plays like 'Tumhari, Amrita, Saalgirah, Mahatma Vs Gandhi and Salesman Ramlal.'

Girish Karnad



Girish Karnad is a very famous and talented playwright, director and an actor. His formidable works as a playwright include Yayathi (1961), Tughlaq (1964), Hayavadana (1971), Anjumallige (1977), Hittina Hunja (1980), Naga - Mandala (1988), Tale- danda (1990) and Agni Mattu Male (1995). All these plays were written originally in Kannada but were translated into other languages including Hindi and English. He has also produced several radio plays and also acted in several renowned films. He had received many honours and awards.

Mahesh Dattani

One of the leading contemporary playwrights of India, Dattani has produced 13 plays including one play called 'Do The Needful' for the BBC. He touched upon the sensitive issue of communalism in his play 'Final Solutions' which won him Sahitya Academy Award. His other important plays include 'A Muggy Night in Mumbai', 'Dance Like a Man and Final Solutions' etc.

Pearl Padamsee

Pearl Padamsee was a noted theatre and film personality. Her notable directorial ventures in theatres include Godspell, Rise and Fall of Arturo Ui, Gieve Patel's Princes, Van Italy's Serpent and Dostoevsky's The Idiot. She was also a versatile actress. She died in April 2000 at the age of 69.

Vijay Tendulkar

He is one of the most renowned play wrights of the Marathi theatre. His notable plays include 'Giddha', 'Khamosh' - Adalat Jari Hai, Sakharam Binder, Ghasiram Kotwal, Kamla and Kanyadaan. Vijay Tendulkar has to his credit 28 full length plays, 25 one - act plays and 16 plays for children.

Zohra Sehgal

She is a well - known stage artist, renowned for her acting in the famous play Ek Thi Nani

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Prasar Bharati

Prasar Bharati is the public service broadcaster in the country with All India Radio and Doordarshan as its two constituents. It came into existence on 23 November, 1997. Its head quarters is in Delhi.

The major objectives of the Prasar Bharati Corporation are as follows.

- 1) Upholding the unity and integrity of the country and the values enshrined in the constitution.
- 2) Promoting national integration.
- 3) Safeguarding citizen's rights and to be informed on all matters of public interest and presenting a fair and balanced flow of information.
- 4) Paying special attention to the fields of education and spread of literacy, agriculture, rural development, health and family welfare and science and technology.
- 5) Creating awareness about women's issues and taking special steps to protect the interests of children, the aged and other vulnerable sections of society.
- 6) Providing adequate coverage to the diverse cultures, sports and games and youth affairs.
- 7) Promoting social justice, safeguarding the rights of working classes, minorities and tribal communities.
- 8) Expanding broadcasting facilities and promoting research and development

in broadcast technology. The present chairman of Prasar Bharati - **Ms. Mrinal Pande**

RADIO

Radio Broadcasting started in India in 1927 with two privately owned transmitters at Mumbai and Kolkata, which were taken over by the Government in 1930. These were operating under the name "India Broadcasting Service" until 1936 when it was given the present name "All India Radio (AIR)". It also came to be known as "Akashvani" from 1957. All India Radio, informs, educates and entertains people through its programmes broadcast from various stations. The AIR network comprises the national channel, regional stations, local radio stations, Vividh Bharati Centres. FM Stereo services and North - Eastern Services. All India Radio is one of the largest broadcasting networks in the world. As in December 2009 the network comprises 233 stations and 375 transmitters, which provide

IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE IN INDIA

Improvisational theatre is a form of theatre in which the improvisational actors use improvisational acting techniques to perform spontaneously. Improvisers typically use audience suggestions to guide the performance as they create dialogue, setting and plot extemporaneously. Improvisational Theatre in India is largely used for educational, interventional and entertainment purposes. The traces of improvisational theatre in India dates back to the year 1990.

Improvisational Theatre groups in India are yours truly Theatre, Janasanskriti, Forum theatre, playback theatre, Mushyara theatre etc.

Ancient Theatre Personalities

Bharata Muni, Kalidasa, Sudraka, Bhasa, Bhavabhuti

Medieval age Theatre personalities

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Dinabandhu Mitra, Michael Madhusudan Dutta, Bharatendu Harischandra, Jai Shankar Prasad.

radio coverage to 99.16 percent of the population and reaches 91.82 percent area of the country.

External Services of All India Radio

All India Radio entered the realm of external broadcasting shortly after the outbreak of the second world war on 1 October 1939. The languages in which AIR reaches its foreign audience are English, French, Russian, Swahili, Arabic, Persian, Pushto, Dari, Baluchi, Sinhalese, Nepali, Tibetan, Chinese, Thai, Burmese and Bhasha Indonesia. The services in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Gujarati are directed at overseas Indians.

Vividh Bharati

Vividh Bharati, which is a popular entertainment programme, is broadcast from 40 centres in India including four short wave transmitters at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Guwahati-Commercial broadcasting centres are at Chandigarh, Kanpur and Vadodara and two studio centres at Bhubaneswar and Shantiniketan. The great merit of Vividh Bharati service is that it provides entertainment for 15 hours a day to the listeners. Commercial broadcasting on Radio was introduced in November 1967 as an experimental measure. Now it is carried by 31 centres. Army men fighting the Kargil war during 1999 stayed connected with their family members through Vividh Bharati's popular programme in Hello Jaimala.

Yuva Vani

Yuva Vani gives programmes for the youth from 74 stations. The service provides a forum for the youth to present their viewpoint by participating in talks, discussions, interviews, plays, features and music. It is a service of the youth, by the youth and for the youth.

Archives Digital Library

A special project was launched to digitize all archival recordings in 2001. By this Akashvani

has become one of the major digital libraries in the broadcasting network with modern tape numbering system in tune with the internationally accepted norms.

FM Radio

First FM service was started in 1972 in Madras and later in 1992 at Jalandar. In 1993 AIR sold time slots for private FM Radio Broadcasting in 5 cities (Madras, Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta and Goa). They were soon followed by stations in Hyderabad, Jaipur and Lucknow. In 1999 Government of India privatized FM broadcasting but it failed because the Government demanded higher revenues from private broadcasters.

The Ministry finally invited bids for FM frequencies in 2001 from across the country. However, this did not work out as foreseen as most private players bid heavily and most could not meet their commitments to pay the government the amounts they owed. Only a few stations like Radio City, Radio Mirchi and Red FM managed to sustain themselves. The Phase II of FM licensing happened in 2006, where some 338 frequencies were offered of which about 237 were sold. In Phase III of FM licensing the government went for re-bidding of unsold frequencies. In this smaller towns and cities opened up for FM Radio.

DOORDARSHAN

Doordarshan starts its service on 15 September 1959 at Delhi on an experimental basis. The second television centre was started in Bombay in 1972 and later it was expanded to other places. The rapid expansion of DD started in 1984. Doordarshan is presently operating 31 TV channels besides free to air DTH Service.

DD National Channel

DD National is the No. 1 channel in the country in terms of absolute viewership. The service is available in terrestrial mode from 5.30 am till mid night. In the satellite mode it is available round the clock. All major national events are covered live.

Sports Channel

Sports channel of Doordarshan was launched on 18 March 1999. On 25th April 1999 the transmission hours of the channel was increased from 10 hours to 12 hours a day. From June 2000 onwards the transmission hours have been extended to round the clock.

DD India

The Channel, initially known as DD World was launched on 14 March 1995. In 2002 it was renamed DD India. It is a round - the - clock channel. It offers its international viewers update on the Indian social, cultural, political and economic scene.

DD Bharati

DD Bharati Channel was launched by Prasar Bharati on 26 January 2002. It telecasts programmes on music, dance, women education, health children.

DD Direct Plus

Doordarshan launched free - to air DTH Service “ DD Direct Plus” in December 2004 with 33 TV Channels primarily for providing TV coverage to the areas hithero uncovered by terrestrial transmitters DTH signals are uplinked to INSAT 4- B satellite from the DTH centre located at Todapur, New Delhi. DTH signals (KU Band) can be received anywhere in the country (except Andaman Nicobar islands) with the help of small sized dish receiver units. Presently there are 58 TV channels on Doordarshan’s DTH platform. DTH service in C- Band with 10 DD Channels especially for Andaman Nicobar Islands has been started in September 2009.

NEWS PAPERS

The office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India came into being on 1 July 1956. The Registrar of Newspapers for India submit on Annual Report to the Government by 31 December every year on the status of newspapers. The period for which the annual report was to be submitted, was changed from

the calender year to financial year in 2002. As on 31 March 2009 the total number of registered newspapers /periodical was 73,146. Orissa publishes newspapers / periodicals in 21 major languages. Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra come next with 14, 13 and 11 major languages. The largest number of newspapers / periodicals registered in any Indian languages is in Hindi (29094). The second largest number of newspapers/ periodicals registered in any language is in English (10,530). The state with the largest number of newspapers/ periodicals is Uttar Pradesh with 11,543 newspapers/ periodicals. The state with the second largest number of newspapers/ periodicals is Delhi with 9961 newspapers / periodicals.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (PIB)

The Press Information Bureau is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programme initiatives and achievements. It functions as an interface between the Government and Media and also serves to provide feedback to the Government on People’s reaction as reflected in the media. Its headquarters is in New Delhi.

NEWS AGENCIES

Press Trust of India (PTI)

Press Trust of India was founded on 27 August 1947. It began functioning from 1 February 1949. Press Trust of India, India’s largest news agency is a non profit sharing co-operative owned by the country’s newspapers with a mandate to provide efficient and unbiased news to all subscribers. The PTI offers its news services in English and Hindi languages. Bhasha is the Hindi language news service of the agency. PTI subscribers include 500 newspapers in India and 20 abroad. All Major TV/ radio channels in India and several abroad,

including BBC in London, receive PTI service. The PTI now has its own satellite delivery system through a transponder on an INSAT satellite for reaching its services directly to subscribers anywhere in the country. PTI is on the internet too. Currently, PTI commands 90 percent of news agency marketshare in India.

United News of India

United News of India was constituted on 19 December 1959 and started functioning from 21 March 1961. It is the first news agency in India to launch a full - fledged Hindi wire service ' UNIVARTA' in 1982 and a photo service and a graphics service in the same decade. In June 1992, it launched the first ever wire service in Urdu. UNI has correspondents in Washington, Newyork, London, Moscow, Dubai, Islamabad, Kathmandu, Colombo, Dhaka, Singapore, Toronto (Canada), Sydney (Australia), Bangkok (Thailand) and Kabul (Afghanostan). UNI distributes world news from Reuters, the world's largest information company. Besides, it has news exchange arrangements with Xinhua of China, RIA Novosti of Russia, UNB of Bangladesh, Anadole of Turkey, WAM of the United Arab Emirates, GNA of Baharin, KUNA of Kuwait, ONA of Oman and QNA of Qatar and CNA of Taiwan.

Nam News Network

NAM News Network (NNN) is the new Internet based news and photo exchange arrangement of the news agencies belonging to member countries of the non - aligned movement. NNN was formally launched by the Malaysian Information Minister Mr. Zainuddin Maidin in Kuala Lumpur on 27 June 2006. It became operational from April 2006. NNN replaces the Non - aligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) which had acted as the news exchange mechanism among non - aligned countries for the last 30 years. News and photo contributions of NAM new agencies

including Press Trust of India are uploaded on to the NNN website. Malaysian news agency Bernama is at present handling the operation of the website from Kuala Lumpur.

Press Council of India

Press Council of India is a statutory quasi - judicial authority mandated by the Parliament to preserve the freedom of the press and maintain and improve the standards of the newspapers and the news agencies in India. It is an autonomous body with equal quasi-judicial authority over the authorities and the press persons. The council is presently chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.M. Ray. The Press Council Act, 1978 provides for re-constitution of the Council every three years. The council discharges its functions primarily through adjudications on complaint received by it either against the press for violation of journalistic ethic or by the press for interference with its freedom. Where the council is satisfied, after inquiry, that a newspaper or news agency has offended against the standards of journalistic ethics or public taste or that an editor or working journalists has committed any professional misconduct, the council may warn, admonish or censure them or disapprove of their conduct. The decisions of the council are final and cannot be questioned in any court of law.

Research Reference and Training Division

The Research Reference and Training Division was set up in the year 1945. It is a subordinate office of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Its role is to assist the Media Units of the Ministry in collection, compilation and preparation of material involving research in published work etc. and building up of compendium of knowledge on important subjects. The National Documentation Centre on Mass Communication (NDCMC) was created in 1976 as a part of the division for collecting, interpreting and disseminating information about the events and trends in

Mass Media through its periodical services. The NDCMC documents major news items, articles, and other information material available on mass communication.

Photo Division

Photo Division, an independent media unit meant for visual support for the varied activities of the Government of India, is subordinate office of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the biggest production unit of its kind of the country in the field of photography. The Division is responsible for visual documentation and the preparation of photographs both in Black and White and Colour initially, for both internal and external publicity on behalf of the Government of India.

Publications Division

The Publications Division is a repository of books and journals highlighting subjects of national importance and India's rich cultural heritage. It is publishing books in English and Hindi as well as in all major Indian languages at affordable prices. The division publishes books on India's art, culture, history, land and people, flora and fauna, Gandhian literature, Children's literature, science and technology, biographies of eminent Indians, and also publishes book to commemorate national events and centenaries of great leaders. Apart from the books, the Division publishes 21 periodicals in English, Hindi and regional languages - *Yojana* in 13 languages, *Kurukshetra* in English and Hindi, *Ajkal* in Hindi and Urdu, *Bal Bharati* in Hindi and *Employment News* (weekly) in English, Hindi and Urdu.

Bharatendu Harischandra Awards

In order to promote original writing in Hindi, Publication Division instituted the Bharatendu Harischandra Awards 25 years back. These prestigious awards are given annually in four categories namely Journalism and Mass Communication, Women's Issues, Children's Literature and National Integration.

INDIAN CINEMA

- India tops the world in respect of production of feature films.
- The film producing centre in Mumbai is known as Bollywood.
- The first talkies film *Alam Ara* was produced in 1931 by Ardeshir Irani (1886-1969).
- Dada Saheb Phalke, the producer of India's first indigenous feature film *Raja Harichandra* (1913) is considered as the father of Indian Cinema.
- India's first cinemascope film is *Kagaz ka Phool* 1959 by Guru Dutt.
- India's first 70 mm film is *Around the World* (Hindi) 1967 by Raj Kapoor.
- The most prestigious award in the Indian film world is Dada Saheb Phalke Award instituted by the Government of India for life long contributions to Indian Cinema.
- Swarna Kamal (Golden Kamal) is the name of the award given to the best film of the year by the Government of India.
- The first winner of the Dada Saheb Award was Devika Rani Roerch (1969). She is known as the *Lady of Indian Film*.
- *Adi Shankara* directed by G.V. Iyer is the first sanskrit film in India.
- The first actress of the Indian Cinema to win a Padmashri Award was Nargis Dutt (1958).
- Sivaji Ganesan was the first Indian to win the Chevalier Award instituted by the French Government.
- M.G. Ramachandran was the first film star to become the Chief Minister of an Indian State.
- The first International Film Festival of India was held in 1952.
- First Indian 3-D Picture is Malayalam cinema *My Dear Kuttichathan*.
- Filmmakers such as Shyam Benegal continued to produce realistic Parallel Cinema throughout the 1970s, alongside Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, Mrinal Sen, Buddhadeb Dasgupta and Gautam Ghose in Bengali cinema; Adoor Gopalakrishnan, John Abraham

and G. Aravindan in Malayalam cinema; and Mani Kaul, Kumar Shahani, Ketan Mehta, Govind Nihalani and Vijaya Mehta in Hindi cinema.

Films Division

The Film Division was constituted in January 1948 by rechristening the erstwhile Information Films of India and the Indian New Parade set up in 1943. Its headquarters is in Mumbai. Films Division produces documentaries, short films, animation films and news magazines. The Division also sells prints, stock shots, video cassettes and distribution rights of documentaries and feature films in India and abroad. Apart from production of films, Films Division also gives on hire, its studio, recording theatre, editing rooms and other cine equipments to private film makers. The aim and objectives of the Division, focused on national perspectives, are to educate and motivate people in the implementation of national programmes and to protect the image of the land and the heritage of the country to Indian and foreign audiences.

Central Board of Film Certification

The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) was set up under the Cinematograph Act 1952. CBFC certifies films for public exhibition in India. It consists of a chairperson and twenty five other non-official members. Smt. Sharmila Tagore is the present Chairperson of CBFC. Its headquarters is in Mumbai. It has nine regional offices in Bangalore, Kolkata, Chennai, Cuttack, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Mumbai, New Delhi and Thiruvananthapuram.

National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC)

The National Film Development Corporation Limited was incorporated in 1975. It was formed by the Government of India with the primary objective of planning and promoting an organized, efficient and integrated devel-

opment of the Indian film industry. NFDC was reincorporated in the year 1980, by merging the Film Finance Corporation (FFC) and Indian Motion Picture Export Corporation (IMPEC) with NFDC. The erstwhile Film Finance Corporation was set up in the year 1962. It was formed with the primary objective of extending finance to young talented film makers for film production. The Indian Motion Picture Export Corporation was an autonomous body. It was set up to regulate the import and export of films and canalization of raw stock into the country. The NFDC has so far produced over 200 films. These films in various Indian languages, have been widely acclaimed and have won many national and international awards. The Corporate office of NFDC is at Worli, Mumbai. It has three Regional Offices at Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi and a Branch Office at Thiruvananthapuram.

Directorate of Film Festivals

The Directorate of Film Festivals was setup under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in 1973 with the prime objective of promoting good cinema. The activities of Directorate of Film Festivals include

- a) The International Film Festival of India
- b) The National Film Awards and the Dada Saheb Phalke Award
- c) Cultural Exchange Programme and Organising screening of Indian films through the mission abroad.
- d) The selection of Indian Panorama.
- e) Participation in international film festivals abroad.
- f) Special film exposition of behalf of the Government of India
- g) Print collection and documentation.

These activities provides a unique platform for exchange of ideas, culture and experiences between India and other countries in the field of Cinema.

National Film Archive of India

The National Film Archive of India was established as an independent media unit under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in February 1964 with the following aims and objectives

- 1) To trace, acquire and preserve for posterity the heritage of national cinema and build up a representative collection of World Cinema.
- 2) To classify and document data related to film, undertake and encourage research on cinema and publish and distribute them; and
- 3) To act as a centre for dissemination of film culture in the country and to ensure the cultural presence of Indian Cinema abroad.

Children's Film Society, India (CFSI)

Children's Film Society, India was established in 1955 to provide value - based entertainment to children through the medium of films. CFSI is engaged in production, acquisition, distribution, exhibition and promotion of children's films. The Head office of the CFSI is in Mumbai with branch offices at New Delhi and Chennai. CFSI holds, its own International Children's Film Festival once every two years. The 16th edition of this Festival was held in Hyderabad in November 2009. 70 films from 20 countries were selected for participation in the festival. 350 children participated in the festival from across the country.

TRAINING INSTITUTE

Film and Television Institute of India, Pune

The Film Institute was setup by the Government of India in 1960. With the coming of Television wing in 1974, the Institute was re-designated as Film and Television Institute of India. The Institute became a society in October 1974. The society consists of eminent personalities connected with film, Television, Communication, Culture, Alumni of Institute and Ex-officio Government members. The

Institute is governed by a Governing Council, headed by a Chairman. The current chairman is Dr. U.R. Ananthamurthy. The Institute consists of two wings, The Film wing and the TV wing. It offers courses in both Film and Television. Film and Television Institute provides the latest education and technological experience in the art and technique of film making and television production.

Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI)

SRFTI located in Kolkata is the second national level film training Institute to be established by the Government of India. The Institute offers three - year post graduate diploma courses in Direction and Screenplay writing, Cinematography, Editing, and Audiography. Apart from the basic diploma course, the institute also has the provision to conduct short and medium term courses on areas related to film and television research and explorative studies in the sociology, culture and technology of film and television are other areas of focus in SRFTI

Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)

IIMC came into existence on 17th August 1963. It was established with the basic objective of undertaking teaching, training and research in the area of mass communication. The institute conducts a number of Post - graduate Diploma Courses in Print Journalism, Radio and TV Journalism and Advertising and Public Relations. A number of specialised short - term courses ranging from one week to twelve weeks are also organised to meet the ever - growing training needs of communication professionals working in various media/publicity outfits of central, state governments and public sector organizations. In addition the institute also collaborates with different national and international agencies in conducting training programmes, seminars, workshops etc. and in undertaking research projects.

INDIAN LITERATURE

Indian Literature refers to the literature produced on the Indian subcontinent. The earliest works of Indian Literature were orally transmitted. Sanskrit literature begins with the Rig Veda. The Sanskrit epics Ramayana and Mahabharata appeared towards the end of the first millennium BCE. Classical Sanskrit literature, Tamil Sangam Literature and Pali Literature flourished in the first few centuries of the first millennium CE. Literature in Kannada and Telugu appeared in the 9th and 11th Centuries respectively. Later Literature in Marathi, Bengali, Hindi, Persian, Urdu began to appear.

Assamese Literature

Though the origin of Assamese language may be traced in the 7th century, its literary tradition started in the 13th century with the advent of the Vaishnava founder in Assam, Shanker Dev (1449-1568) who composed ' creative drama, epic and songs. The tradition of fiction novel writing was started in the 19th century by Padnath Gohai Barua and Rajnikant Bardolai. Some of the famous novelists of this phase were Dandinath Kalit, Devchandra Talukdar, Beena Barua who are still remembered. In the field of prose, Virendra Bhattacharya (1924-1997) bagged the prestigious Gyanpith award. Again in year 2000, Indira Goswami was given the Gyanpith award.

The most famous modern Assamese writers are Indira Goswami, Nirupama Bargohain, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya, Homen Borgohain, Bhabendra Nath Saikia, Amulya Barua, Atul Chandra Hazarika, Nalini Bala Devi, Sharma Pujari, Roindra Bora etc.

Bengali Literature

During the primary stage of its development, the Bengali literature followed the Nath School of thought and romanticism of Radha Krishna. The tradition of modernity in Indian languages

emerged first in Bengali literature because the Britishers first came there and infused English thought with the Bengali.

The Bengali literature got international recognition when Gitanjali of Rabindranath Tagore was awarded Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913. Other famous Indian Bengali writers were Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Michael Madhasudan Dutt.

Bodo

Bodo is a Tibeto-Burman language spoken by the Bodo people of North-Eastern India and Nepal. It is a rich language, it has to its credit large number of books on poetry, drama, short story, novel, biography, travelogue, children's literature and literary criticism.

After the inclusion of Bodo language in the Eighth Schedule as a 22nd official language in 2003, noted Bodo literati, Mangal Singh Hajowary was awarded the coveted; Sahitya Akademi Award for his "Jiuni Mwgthang Brsombi Arw Aroj" for year 2005.

Kannada Literature

Kannada is one of the important part of Indian literature and even during the fifth century, it was considered well developed. It is very close to the Sanskrit. A revolutionary change in the Kannada literature was brought by Basveshwar who contributed a lot in prose writing which was also adopted by Telugu.

The prominent authors of the cultural Renaissance period were B.M. Shri Kantya, M. Govinda Pandey, K.V. Puttapa and D.R. Bandre. Puttapa and Bandre have been awarded Gyanpith award. Girish Karnad is the famous dramatist of this phase. The fiction Sanskar of U.R., Anantmurthi has also bagged Gyanpith award. Works of Kannada literature have recieved seven Gyanpith awards which is the highest number awarded for the literature in any Indian Language.

Konkani

Konkani is very close to Marathi and Hindi. The Portuguese impact may be easily traced in most of the literary work of Konkani.

The modern phase in the Konkani started in 19th century during which Shomaya Goyambay, B. Barker, R.B. Pandit and Sar Desai were the chief authors. The prominent Konkani novelist are Reginaldo, Fernandese, M. Sar Desai and B.J.P. Saldhana.

Maithili Literature

Maithili is chiefly spoken in the Mithilanchal region of Bihar. It is the second State language of Bihar.

In the 14th century, Jyotishwar enriched the literature in a holistic way. His work Dhurt Sama-gam is very popular in Maithili Vidyapati was another founding father of Maithili. He was the court poet of Mithilanchal under King Shiv Narayan. His poetic works and songs are full of devotion to the God Shiva. He opted the theme of love, beauty and separation for his literary work. He is also very popular in Hindi and Bengali. In the 20th century, Baba Nagarjun, Ramanand Renu etc. contributed in the field of prose writing. The Graduate Putauh & Kanyadan of Hari Mohan Jha are very popular.

Manipuri Literature

The history of Manipuri Literature trace back to thousand of years with flourish of its civilization. Manipuri is a language of Tibeto-Burmen family and particularly spoke in some eastern states. The literature is greatly influenced by the folk literary tradition. Most of the early literary works found in Manipuri literature were in poetry and prose. Some of the books were written with combination of both the prose and poetry. Hija Harao is an epic of ornamental style. Ram - No Gaya is the another popular work based on the death of Ram.

Marathi Literature

The first phase is the Yadav period (1189 - 1320) which was basically a period of poetry writing; Viveksindhu of Nathpanthi Mukundraj was the greatest work of this period. Bhavarth Ramayan was composed by Eknath. During the period of Marathas (1600-1700), Christian Missionary of Goa contributed a lot. Father Cofens wrote Krist Puran. During this period Tukaram and Guru Ram Das emerged. During the Peshwa period (1700-1800), new literary trends were established, Krishna Dayanarv and Sridhar were the chief poets of this period. In 1840, the first Marathi daily Digidarshan was started which was later on, followed by Darpan. During this modern phase, Nibandhamala of Chiplunker, biographical work of N.C. Kelker and several novels of Hari Narayan Amte and V.S. Khandekar published which became very popular. Vijay Tendulkar is known for his dramas, Sakharam Bander and Ghasi Ram Kotwal.

Malayalam Literature

The primary Malayalam literary tradition consists of three streams of thought in its composition. The first is the Pach Malayam stream, which consists of folk song and folk story. The second is the Tamil stream, during which the Ramayana like composition were composed and third is the Sanskritic stream, during which refined literary compositions were composed.

In the 15th century, Krishnagatha was composed by Cherushasheri Nambudri. In the 16th century Ezhuthachan composed Adhyatma Ramayana Killipattu, Sree Maha Bharatam Killipattu and Bhagavatham Killipattu. The poetic works Ramnattam of Kottarakara Thampuran, Bakvadham, Nivathakavaju Kalkeyavadam, Kirmeeravadham, Kalyanasowgandhikam of Kottayathu Thampuran, Nalacharitam of Unnayi varyiar etc. also become popular.

Several noted works were written during the 19th century, but it was in the 20th century the Malayalam literary movement came to prominence. Malayalam literature flourished under various genres and today it is a fully developed part of Indian literature.

Nepali Literature

Nepali is the language of Indo-European family and it follows Devanagiri script. It is also very close to Hindi, Maithili and Bengali. In the 18th century, Nepalese literature came in light with the publication of the works of Subnand Das, Shalav Ballav Aryan and Udayanand. Sanskrit-works were generally translated into Nepali.

Krishna Charitha, first epic in Nepali, was composed by Vasant Sharma. In the 20th century, Mitrasen, Moti Ram Bhatt, Lekhnath and Balkrishna Sharma contributed a lot in the field of prose writing. Some popular novelist are Pratiman Lama, Rudraraj Pandey, Shiv Kumar Rai, Subhas Ghising etc. Balkrishna Sharma and Aryali are the popular dramatist.

Oriya Literature

Oriya has a rich literary heritage dating back to the 13th century. Sarala Dasa who lived in the 14th century is known as the Vyasa of Orissa. He translated the Mahabharata into Oriya. Oriya basically originated from the Magadhi dialect and it is very close to the Assamese. Sharla Das, Balram Das, Jagrmath Das, Yashwant Das etc. contributed, a lot to this devotional and cultic tradition.

Fakir Mohan Senapati is considered as the modern and popular architect of Oriya literature. He is known for his novel Galp-Salp and Chhamana Aatha Guntha. The epic Mahayatra of Radhanath Rath is widely popular. In 1993, Sitakant Mahapatra was awarded Gyanpith award.

Manoj Das, Ramakanta Rath, Jagadish Mohanty, Sarojini Sahoo, Pratibha Satpathy, Padmaj Pal, Binapani Mohanty are few names who made the Oriya literature and Oriya language work.

Kashmiri Literature

The Kashmiri languages and literature is greatly influenced by the Persian and Sanskrit.

The first literary works in Kashmiri is Tantrasar of Abhinav Gupta which was composed during the 11th century. The modern phase in Kashmiri literature started when a large number of Urdu poets began to start writing in Kashmiri. Prominent among them are Mahjur, Akhtar Moinuddin, Mohammad Amin Kamil and Agha Shahid Ali. Rehman Rahi got the 2004, Gyanpith award.

Gujarati Literature

Gujarati Literature's history may be traced to the 1000 AD. Since then literature has flourished till date.

During the 13th century and its primary stage of development, Gujarati literature followed the romanticism in their work. Padam, Rajshekhar and Jaishekhar composed romantic prose in Gujarati.

Modernism in Gujarati is visible in the fiction, Koran Chela of Narmod Shanker. In 1985, Pannalal Patel was honoured with Gyanpith award. Well known laureates of Gujarati literature are Hemachandracharya, Narsinh Mehta, Mirabai, Akho, Premanand Bhatt, Dayram, Narmad, Umashankar Joshi, Pannalal Patel etc.

Punjabi Literature

The history of Punjabi Literature starts with advent of Aryan in Punjab. The Punjab literary tradition is generally conceived to commence with Fariduddin Ganjshakar. His mostly spiritual and devotional verse were compiled after his death in the Adi Granth. The Janamsakhis, stories on the life and legend of Guru Nanak are early examples of Punjabi prose literature. Sufi poetry developed under Shah Hussain, Sultan Babu, Shah Sharaf, Ali Haider and Bulleh Shah. The Victorian novel, Elizabethan drama, free verse and Modernism entered Punjabi Literature through the

introduction of British education during colonial rule.

Tamil Literature

It is the language of Dravida family, the origin, of which may be traced around 500 B.C. It is very ancient as well as modern. At the primary stage Tolkapiyam, a grammar was published. This period (500 B.C.-200 B.C.) is known as the Sangam period. Tirukural of Tiruvallure is still very popular.

As far as devotional literary work is concerned, the Ramayana of Kamban got wide popularity. Manimekhale and Shilappadikaram are the other prominent epics.

The trends of modernisation, patriotism and consciousness in Tamil literature started with the works of Subrahmanyam Bharthi. He inspired thousands of youths through his literary works. The other prominent novelists are Rajan Ayyar, Madhavaiya, Pudumaipitan, K.P. Rajgopalan and Kalki Krishnamurti. The chief architect of prose composition are Jayakantan, Neela Padamnabhan, Sunderamswami, Indira Parthsarathi etc.

Telugu Literature

The origin of this language is traced to the 11th century. The period between 11th to 15th century is considered as the period of translation. In the 16th century. The poet, Srinath who composed Shreengar Naishadham was widely acclaimed.

Gona Ganna Reddy is considered as the Tulsidas of Telugu. His Rangnath Ramayana became very popular. Patana, Tikkanna and Gauranna were the other religious poets. The period of 16th and 17th centuries is considered as the golden age in the Telugu literature. 19th century is considered as the period of Renaissance in Telugu literature.

Santhali Literature

Santhali language is classified under the Munda sub-group of the Austric family. The Santhali speaking population is spread across

Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Assam, Tripura, and even Nepal, Bangladesh, Tibet and Burma.

After a long struggle, the Santhali language was incorporated into the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution on 22 December, 2003. It is believed that the Santhali literature has its beginning in the 14th century. The first ever book in Santhali literature was published in 1852. It was written by Reverend J. Phillips, titled "An Introduction to the Santhali language". The first real work by a Santhali writer was a translation of R. Corstairs 'Harma's Village' by R.P.K. Rapaj and was titled 'Harmawah Ato'. The first collection of poems that was printed was that of Paul Jujhar Soren titled 'Baha Dalwak'.

Pt. Raghunath Murmu, Narayan Soren (Toresutam), Aditya Mitra (Santhali), Babulal Murmu (Adivasi) are some of the prominent Santhali literary figures. Writers like Doman Sahu 'Samir', Basudev Besra and Bhagwat Murmu gave valuable contributions to this literature. Recently, Jadumani Besra became the first Santhali writer to be awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Puraskar.

Sanskrit Literature

The origin of Sanskrit language is traced during the 1500 B.C. to 1200 B.C. The Ashthadhayi of Panini, Ramayana of Valmiki, Mahabharata of Vyas etc. were composed during early times.

The Panchatantra of Vishnu Sharma, Budhacharitra of Ashwaghosh and Bodhimatiakavya of Saundaranand are other famous works of this period. Meghdutam, Kumarsambhav and Raghuvansham of Kalidas are still very popular. His famous drama, Abhigyan Shakuntalam got world wide recognition. Malvikagnimitra and Vikramorvshiyam are the other famous dramas of Kalidas.

Ashwaghosh and Bhasa started the dramatical composition in Sanskrit. Pratiyogandharayan and Pratibhanatkam are very popular dramas

of Bhasa. Vishakhadutta, Harsha, Bhavbhuti, Bodhayan and Rajshekhar were the other prominent dramatists.

The ancient book on Ayurveda such as Rasraj Mahodadhi, Charakshamhita, Yog Ratnakar etc. were composed in Sanskrit. Algebra of Aryabhata and "Lilawati" of Bhashkaracharya were also composed in Sanskrit.

Sindhi Literature

The history of its origin may be traced in a 13th century. Gahu is considered as a very ancient work of Sindhi which follow the theme of Romanticism. In Sindhi, like Sanskrit, the primary poetic composition followed the oral tradition. Pir Saduddin (1290-1551) was the chief poet who composed religious and devotional poetry. The famous sufi poet of the Sindhi is Baj Kajan (1465-1551).

From the 17th century, this literature proceeds towards modernism. Rasalo Sandesh of Shah Abdul Latif is a popular work. Some of the other known authors are Sahay, Chairai Sami, Dalpat, Gulmohammad, Imtiaz Aadil Soomro etc. Lal Shahbaz Oalardar was famous for his different works.

Urdu Literature

The literary trends of Urdu may be traced in the 13th century especially in the Muslim courts and administration. The prominent authors of Southern Urdu are Shekh Ganjus Iim, Khawaja Banda Nawaz, Mukini and Ahmad Aziz. Miratul Aashikeen of Banda Nawaz is still recited in a very voracious tone. In 17th century, Mullah Vajhi composed Kutub Mustari and Anayokti Sabras. The trend of Gazal writing was started by Amir Khusro, Vali, Kutub Shah etc.

The credit of starting the trend of modernism in Urdu goes to Sir Saiyad Ahmad Khan. Mir Hasan and Mir Taqi Mir also contributed a lot. The Gul-i-Nagma of Raghupati Sahay Firak Gorakhpuri got Gyanpith award. Premchandra, Nazeer Ahamad etc. are the

prominent prose writers. The popular dramatist are Banarsi, Talib Hassan and Lakhnavi. In 1990, Aag Ka Dariya of Kuratul-aim Haider got Gyanpith award.

Hindi Literature

According to Acharya Ram Chandra Shukla, the entire history of the Hindi literature may be understood by dividing it into three major phases. The first is called Virgatha or "Aadikal" (1050-1375) during which the composition of court poets became very popular. Some of the best compositions are Prithiviraj Raso, Parimal Raso, Hamir Raso, Beesaldev Raso etc. Chandbardai, Sridhar and Madhukar were the popular poets. The second phase or period is known as "Bhakti Kal" (1375-1700) during which most of the literary works were composed in devotion or respect to God especially Ram and Krishna. Sakhi, Sabad and Rasal of Kabir are still alive. Dadu Raidas, Nanak, Maluk etc. were the prominent authors. Ramcharitramanas, Vinay Patrika, Kavitawali and Hanumanbahu etc. of Tulsidas are popularly known works. The third phase is known as "Ritikal" (1700-1900). By this time, the Hindi literary tradition became very matured and ornamental literary composition had already made its departure along with romanticism. Ramachandrika of Kesavdas became very popular. Bihari, Jaswant, Padmakar etc. were the prominent poets of this time.

The tradition of modernity in Hindi started in the late 19th century. In 1826 Udant Martand, a Hindi weekly was started. Bhartendu Harischandra wrote Premchandrika and Satya Harischandra (drama) which became very popular. Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi started Sarswatipatrika in 1930. In the field of novel writing, Devkinandan Khatri, Srinivas Das and Premchandra contributed a lot. Jayshankar Prasad, Bhagwati Charan Verma and Vrindawan Lal Verma are known figures. Mahadevi Verma, Nirala and Prasad were the prominent mystic (Chhayavadi) poets.

English Literature

Rabindranath Tagore was the first Asian writer to win the Nobel Prize for Literature (1913). Tagore represents a happy combination of the ancient Indian tradition and the new European consciousness. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his poem entitled Gitanjali. His other known works are Gora, Chare Baire and Galpa Guchchha. Mulka Raj Anand's reputation was first established by his first two novels, *Untouchable* (1935), which gives an account of "a day in life" of a sweeper, and *Coolie* (1936), which follows the fortunes of a peasant boy uprooted from the land. His trilogy, *The Village* (1939), *Across The Black Waters* (1940) and *The Sword and the Sickle* (1942), is an epic account of the gradual growth of the protagonist's revolutionary consciousness.

Raja Rao's first novel *Kanthapura* (1938) is his most straight forward work. It gives an account of how her village's revolt against a domineering plantation owner comes to be influenced the Gandhian ideal of non-violence. Rao's major work *The Serpent and the Rope* (1960) is regarded by some Indian critics as the most important Indian novel in English to have appeared to date. Rao has also published the short novels *The Cat and Shakespeare* (1965) and *Comrade Kirillov* (1976).

Nirad C. Chaudhari is being regarded as the most controversial of Indian writers in English. He emerged on the scene with his book *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian* (1951). When he visited England, he recorded his experiences in *A Passage to England* (1959). In *The Continent of Circe* (1965) he puts forward the thesis that the Aryan settlers of India became enfeebled by the climate of North India. He has also published *To Live or not to Live* (1970) and a second volume of autobiography, *Thy Hand, Great Anarch* (1987).

R.K. Narayan's early novels include the trilogy *Swami and Friends* (1935), *The Bachelor of Arts* (1937) and *The English Teacher* (1945). The novels of his middle period represent his best works; these include *Mr. Sampath* (1949), *The Financial Expert* (1952), *The Guide* (1958), *The Man-Eater of Malgudi* (1961) and *The Sweet-Vendor* (1967). They explore conflicts between traditional Hindu values and western incursions into the society. Narayan's more recent novels include *The Painter of Signs* (1976), *A Tiger for Malgudi* (1983) and *Talkative Man* (1986). He has also published several volumes of short stories, including *An Astrologer's Day* (1947) and *Lawley Road* (1956).

Vikram Seth's first novel, *A Suitable Boy* has made him the most hyped-up first-time novelist in the history of Indian literature. *The Golden Gate*, a novel in verse had hit the bestsellers' lists in 1986-87. This was followed by three collections of verses : *The Humble Administrator's Garden*, *All You Who Sleep Tonight* and *Beastly Tales From Here and There*.

Salman Rushdie won the 1981 Booker Prize for *Midnight's Children* (1981). *The Shame* (1983) approaches political events in Pakistan. He has also published *Grimus* (1975), a science fiction novel, and *The Jaguar Smile* (1987), a journal about wartorn Nicaragua and of course, the banned book - *The Satanic Verses*. He was declared the writer of the millennium.

Anita Desai has written *Fire in the Mountains* (1977). *Clear Light of Day* (1980) and *The Village by the Sea* (1982), *Cry the Peacock* (1963), *Bye-Bye Black Bird* (1971) and *In Custody* (1984). Her subtle unostentatious prose and her sensitive evocation of the inner lives of her characters make her one of the finest talents at work in the Indian novel.