

Hindi

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Hindi language)

See Khariboli for "Hindi" as defined by SIL International.

Hindi (Devanāgarī: हिन्दी or हिंदी, IAST: *Hindī*, IPA:

[hɪndiː]), an Indo-European language spoken all over India in varying degrees and extensively in northern and central India, is one of the 22 official languages of India and is used, along with English, for central government administrative purposes.^{[2][3]} It is part of a language continuum of the Indic family, bounded on the northwest and west by Punjabi, Sindhi, and Gujarati; on the south by Marathi and Konkani; on the southeast by Oriya; on the east by Bengali; and on the north by Nepali.

More precisely, *Hindi* also refers to a standardized register of Hindustani language termed *khariboli*, that emerged as the standard dialect.

	Hindī हिन्दी, हिंदी
Spoken in:	India, Nepal, Fiji, with significant minorities in the Philippines, Thailand, UK, USA, Canada, Dubai, Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago, Mauritius
Total speakers:	First language: 370 million Second language: 580 million Overall: 950 millionSource:[1] (http://www.joshuaproject.net/languages.php?rol3=hin&sf=speakers&so=asc) (1991)
Ranking:	3 to 5 (native speakers) Total: 3
Language family:	Indo-European Indo-Iranian Indo-Aryan Hindī
Writing system:	Devanagari script
	Official status
Official language in:	 India Fiji (as Hindustani)
Regulated by:	Central Hindi Directorate (only in India) ^[1]
	Language codes
ISO 639-1:	hi
ISO 639-2:	hin
ISO 639-3:	hin (http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/documentation.asp?id=hin)
 	<div><div><div><div><div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div></div></div></div></div></div></div> This page contains Indic text. Without rendering support you may see irregular vowel positioning and a lack of conjuncts. More...

Contents

- 1 Etymology
- 2 Demographics
 - 2.1 Area
 - 2.2 Number of speakers
- 3 Official status
- 4 History
 - 4.1 Standard Hindi
- 5 Vocabulary
- 6 Dialects
 - 6.1 Non-Hindi regions in the Indian subcontinent
 - 6.2 Outside the Indian subcontinent
- 7 Hindi and Urdu
- 8 Phonology
- 9 Writing system
- 10 Transliteration Conventions
- 11 Grammar
 - 11.1 Genders
 - 11.2 Interrogatives
 - 11.3 Pronouns
 - 11.4 Word order
 - 11.5 Tense and aspect of Hindi verbs
 - 11.6 Case
- 12 Sample Text
- 13 Literature
- 14 Entertainment and showbusiness
- 15 Common Phrases
- 16 Hinglish
 - 16.1 Examples
- 17 See also
- 18 References
 - 18.1 Notes
 - 18.2 Bibliography
 - 18.3 Dictionaries
- 19 Further reading
- 20 External links
 - 20.1 General
 - 20.2 Links to Hindi Wikimedia projects

Etymology

The word *Hindī* comprises *Hind* "India", and the adjectival suffix *ī*. Hence *Hindī* translates to "Indian". Nowadays *Hindī* as taken to mean "Indian" is chiefly obsolete; it has come to specifically refer to the language(s) bearing that name.^[4]

Demographics

Area

Hindi is the predominant language in the Indian states and union territories of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.^[5] Linguistic scholars refer to this area as the Hindi belt.

Distinctive non-standard varieties of Hindi are spoken in large, urban areas outside of the Hindi belt. Most notable of these are those spoken in Mumbai, Calcutta, and Hyderabad. Overseas forms of Hindi are found in Fiji, Guyana, Mauritius, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. Recent immigration to the west, e.g. Europe, UK, USA etc. has resulted in the establishment of Hindi-speaking communities there as well.^[5]

Number of speakers

According to the 1991 census of India (which encompasses all the dialects of Hindi, including those that might be considered separate languages by some linguists—e.g., Bhojpuri), Hindi is the mother tongue of about 487 million Indians, or about 40% of India's

population that year. According to SIL International's Ethnologue,^[6] about 180 million people in India regard standard (*Khari Boli*) Hindi as their mother tongue, and another 300 million use it as a second language. Outside India, Hindi speakers number around 8 million in Nepal, 890,000 in South Africa, 685,000 in Mauritius, 317,000 in the U.S.,^[7] 233,000 in Yemen, 147,000 in Uganda, 30,000 in Germany, 20,000 in New Zealand and 5,000 in Singapore, while the UK and UAE also have notable populations of Hindi speakers. Hence, according to the *SIL ethnologue* (1999 data), a combination of Hindi and Urdu languages makes it the fifth most spoken language in the world.

According to *Comrie* (1998 data),^[8] Hindi is the second most spoken language in the world, with 333 million native speakers.

The 337 million number of the 1991 census includes the following:

- Western Hindi
 - 180 M: Khariboli
 - 13 M: Haryanvi
 - 6 M: Kanauji
- Eastern Hindi
 - 20 M: Awadhi
 - 11 M: Chhattisgarhi
- Bihari
 - 45 M: Maithili (since gained independent status)
 - 26 M: Bhojpuri
 - 11 M: Magadhi
 - 2 M: Sadri
- 7 M: Pahari
- 5 M: Rajasthani



Stotra text in Devanagari script

From 1991 to 2006, the population of India has grown by about 30% (from 838 to 1,095 million), so that the number of current speakers may be expected to be roughly a third higher than those given above.hindi

Official status

The Constitution of India, adopted in 1950, declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language(*rājabhāṣā*) of the Union (Article 343(1)).^[9] Hindi is also enumerated as one of the twenty-two languages of the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India, which entitles it to representation on the Official Language Commission.^[10] The Constitution of India has stipulated the usage of Hindi and English to be the two languages of communication for the Central Government.

It was envisioned that Hindi would become the sole working language of the central government by 1965, with state governments being free to function in languages of their own choice. This has not, however, happened and English is also used along with Hindi for official purposes. There was widespread resistance to the imposition of Hindi on non-native speakers, in some states, especially the Anti-Hindi agitations in the state of Tamil Nadu, which resulted in the passage of the Official Languages Act (1963). This act provided for the continued use of English, indefinitely, for all official purposes, by the Union government. However, the constitutional directive to the central government to champion the spread of Hindi was retained and has strongly influenced the policies of the Union government.

At the state level, Hindi is the official language of the following states in India: Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, and Delhi. Each of these states may also designate a "co-official language"; in Uttar Pradesh for instance, depending on the political formation in power, sometimes this language is Urdu. Similarly, Hindi is accorded the status of co-official language in several states.

History

Like many other modern Indian languages, it is believed that Hindi had been evolved from Sanskrit, by way of the Middle Indo-Aryan Prakrit languages and Apabhramsha of the Middle Ages. Though there is no consensus for a specific time, Hindi originated as local dialects such as Braj, Awadhi and finally Khari Boli after the turn of tenth century.^[11] In the span of nearly a thousand years^[11] of Muslim influence, such as when Muslim rulers controlled much of northern India during the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Empire, many Persian and Arabic words were absorbed into khari boli and was called Urdu or Hindustani. Since almost all Arabic words came via Persian, they do not preserve the original phonology of Arabic.

Hindi is only contrasted with Urdu in the way both were written. Urdu is the official language of Pakistan and also an official language in some parts of India. The primary differences between the two are the way Standard Hindi is written in Devanagari and draws its "vocabulary" with words from (Indo-Aryan) Sanskrit, while Urdu is written in Nastaliq script, a variant of the (Semitic) Perso-Arabic script, and draws heavily on Persian and Arabic "vocabulary." Vocabulary is in quotes here since it is mostly the literary vocabulary that shows this visible distinction with the everyday vocabulary being essentially common between the two. To a common unbiased person, both Hindi and Urdu are same (Hindustani) though politics of religion and ethnicity portrays them as two separate languages since they are written in two entirely different scripts Hindi-Urdu controversy. Interestingly, if Urdu is written in Devanagiri script, it will be assumed as Hindi and vice versa. The popular examples are Bollywood songs and gazals.

Standard Hindi

After independence, the Government of India worked on standardizing Hindi, instituting the following changes:

- standardization of Hindi grammar: In 1954, the Government of India set up a committee to prepare a grammar of Hindi; The committee's report was released in 1958 as "A Basic Grammar of Modern Hindi"
- standardization of Hindi spelling
- standardization of the Devanagari script by the Central Hindi Directorate of the Ministry of Education and Culture to bring about uniformity in writing and to improve the shape of some Devanagari characters.
- scientific mode of transcribing the Devanagari alphabet
- incorporation of diacritics to express sounds from other languages.

Vocabulary

Further information: Hindustani (Hindi-Urdu) word etymology

Standard Hindi derives much of its formal and technical vocabulary from Sanskrit. Standard or *shuddh* ("pure") Hindi is used only in public addresses and radio or TV news, while the everyday spoken language in most areas is one of several varieties of Hindustani, whose vocabulary contains words drawn from Persian and Arabic. In addition, spoken Hindi includes words from English and other languages as well.

Vernacular Urdu and Hindi share the same grammar and core vocabulary and so are practically indistinguishable. However, the literary registers differ substantially in borrowed vocabulary; in highly formal situations, the languages are barely intelligible to speakers of the other. Hindi has looked to Sanskrit for borrowings from at least the 19th century, and Urdu has looked to Persian and Arabic for borrowings from the eighteenth century. On another dimension, Hindi has been associated with the Hindu community and Urdu with the Muslim community.

There are five principal categories of words in Standard Hindi:

- **Tatsam** (तत्सम् / تتسم / *same as that*) words: These are words which are spelled the same in Hindi as in Sanskrit (except for the absence of final case inflections).^[12] They include words inherited from Sanskrit via Prakrit which have survived without modification (e.g. Hindustani *nām*/Sanskrit *nāma*, "name"),^[13] as well as forms borrowed directly from Sanskrit in more modern times (e.g. *prārthanā*, "prayer").^[14] Pronunciation, however, conforms to Hindi norms and may differ from that of classical Sanskrit. Among nouns, the *tatsam* word could be the Sanskrit uninflected word-stem, or it could be the nominative singular form in the Sanskrit nominal declension.
- **Ardhatatsam** words: These are words that were borrowed from Sanskrit in the middle Indo-Aryan or early New Indo-Aryan stages. Such words typically have undergone sound changes subsequent to being borrowed.
- **tadbhāv** (तद्भव / تذبھو / *born of that*) words: These are words which are spelled differently from Sanskrit but are derivable from a Sanskrit prototype by phonological rules (e.g. Sanskrit *karma*, "deed" becomes Pali *kamma*, and eventually Hindi *kām*, "work").^[15]
- **Deshaj** (देशज) words: These are words that were not borrowings but do not derive from attested Indo-Aryan words either. Belonging to this category are onomatopoeic words.
- **videshi** words: these include all words borrowed from sources other than Indo-Aryan. The most frequent sources of borrowing in this category have been Persian, Arabic, and English.

Similarly, Urdu treats its own vocabulary, borrowed directly from Persian and Arabic, as a separate category for

morphological purposes.

Hindi from which most of the Persian, Arabic and English words have been ousted and replaced by *tatsam* words is called *Shuddha Hindi* (pure Hindi). Chiefly, the proponents of the so-called *Hindutva* ("Hindu-ness") are vociferous supporters of *Shuddha Hindi*.

Excessive use of *tatsam* words sometimes creates problems for most native speakers. Strictly speaking, the *tatsam* words are words of Sanskrit and not of Hindi—thus they have complicated consonantal clusters which are not linguistically valid in Hindi. The educated middle class population of India can pronounce these words with ease, but people of rural backgrounds have much difficulty in pronouncing them. Similarly, vocabulary borrowed from Persian and Arabic also brings in its own consonantal clusters and "foreign" sounds, which may again cause difficulty in speaking them.

Dialects

If there can be considered a census within the dialectology of Hindi proper, it is that it can be split into two sets of dialects: Western and Eastern Hindi.^[5] This analysis excludes varieties sometimes claimed for Hindi, such as Bihari, Rajasthani, and Pahari.^[16] Thus Hindi proper includes^[17] —

- Western Hindi** (the speech varieties developed from *Sauraseni*):
 - *Braj*, spoken in western Uttar Pradesh and adjacent districts of Rajasthan and Haryana.
 - *Hariyanvi* or *Bangaru*, spoken in the state of Haryana and some outlying areas of Delhi.
 - *Bundeli*, spoken in west-central Madhya Pradesh.
 - *Kannauji*, spoken in west-central Uttar Pradesh.
 - *Kauravi* or *Vernacular Hindustani*, spoken to the north and northeast of Delhi.
 - *Khari boli*, the language's standard dialect, generally identified with the grammatical core of Kauravi (vernacular Hindustani), but displaying features of other dialects and adjacent languages, as well as non-Indic speech such as Persian. It forms the basis of the standard registers of *Modern Standard Hindi* and *Urdu*.
- Eastern Hindi** (the speech varieties developed from *Ardhamagadhi*)
 - *Awadhi*, spoken in north and north-central Uttar Pradesh.
 - *Bagheli*, spoken in north-central Madhya Pradesh and central Uttar Pradesh.
 - *Chattisgarhi*, spoken in southeast Madhya Pradesh and northern and central Chattisgarh.

Non-Hindi regions in the Indian subcontinent

- **Bambaiya Hindi**, the dialect of the city of Bombay (Mumbai); it is based on Khariboli dialect, but heavily influenced by Marathi and Gujarati. Technically it is a pidgin, i.e., neither is it a mother language of any people nor is it used in formal settings by the educated and upper social strata. However, it is often used in the movies of Hindi cinema (Bollywood), where it often gives a comical effect on the movie characters.
- **Dakhini**, as discussed above.
- **Kalkatiya Hindi**, another Khariboli-based pidgin spoken in the city of Calcutta (Kolkata), Shillong, etc., heavily influenced by Bhojpuri and Bengali.
- **Arunachal Hindi** is a regional dialect of Hindi popularly spoken in Hindi. This is an amalgamation of Hindi and the various tribal dialects of the state. Words such as 'Yamtar', meaning "pickle" are spoken instead of 'achaar' and so on. Arunachal Hindi is the most popular language spoken in Arunachal Pradesh even in the most remote parts of the state.

Outside the Indian subcontinent

- Mauritian Hindi, spoken in Mauritius, based on Bhojpuri and influenced by French.
- Sarnami, a form of Bhojpuri with Awadhi influence spoken by Surinamers of Indian descent.
- Fiji Hindi, derived form of Awadhi, Bhojpuri and including many English and native Fijian words, is spoken by Fijians of Indian descent.
- Trinidad Hindi, based on Bhojpuri, and spoken in Trinidad and Tobago by people of Indian descent.
- South African Hindi, based on Bhojpuri, and spoken in South Africa by people of Indian descent.

Hindi and Urdu

The term Urdu arose in 1645. Until then, and even after 1645, the term Hindi or Hindawi was used in a general sense for the dialects of central and northern India.

There are two fundamental distinctions between standard Urdu and standard Hindi that lead to their being recognised as distinct languages:

- the source of borrowed vocabulary (Persian/Arabic for Urdu and Sanskrit for Hindi); and
- the script used to write them (for Urdu, an adaptation of the Perso-Arabic alphabet written in Nasta'liq style; for Hindi, an adaptation of the Devanagari script).

Colloquially and linguistically, the distinction between the Urdu and Hindi is insignificant. This is true for the northern half of the Indian subcontinent, wherever neither learned vocabulary nor writing is used. Outside the Delhi dialect area, the term "Hindi" is used in reference to the local dialect, which may be different from both Hindi and Urdu.

The word *Hindi* has many different uses; confusion of these is one of the primary causes of debate about the identity of Urdu. These uses include:

1. standardized Hindi as taught in schools throughout India,
2. formal or official Hindi advocated by Purushottam Das Tandon and as instituted by the post-independence Indian government, heavily influenced by Sanskrit,
3. the vernacular nonstandard dialects of Hindustani/Hindi-Urdu as spoken throughout much of India and Pakistan, as discussed above,
4. the neutralized form of the language used in popular television and films, or
5. the more formal neutralized form of the language used in broadcast and print news reports.

The rubric "Hindi" is often used as a catch-all for those idioms in the North Indian dialect continuum that are not recognized as languages separate from the language of the Delhi region. Panjabi, Bihari, and Chhatisgarhi, while sometimes recognised as being distinct languages, are often considered dialects of Hindi. Many other local idioms, such as the Bhili languages, which do not have a distinct identity defined by an established literary tradition, are almost always considered dialects of Hindi. In other words, the boundaries of "Hindi" have little to do with mutual intelligibility, and instead depend on social perceptions of what constitutes a language.

The other use of the word "Hindi" is in reference to Standard Hindi, the *Khari boli* register of the Delhi dialect of Hindi (generally called Hindustani) with its direct loanwords from Sanskrit. Standard Urdu is also a standardized form of Hindustani. Such a state of affairs, with two standardized forms of what is essentially one language, is known as a diasystem.

Urdu was earlier called *Zabān-e-Urdū-e-Mu'allah* (زبان اردو معلمہ, *ज़बान-ए उर्दू*), lit., the "Exalted Language of the Camp". Earlier, terms Hindi and Urdu were used interchangeably even by Urdu poets like Mir and Mirza Ghalib of the early 19th century (rather, the terms Hindvi/Hindi was used more often). By 1850, Hindi and Urdu were no longer used for the same language. Other linguists such as Sir G. A. Grierson

(<http://www.nagpuroonline.com/people/language.html>) (1903) have also claimed that Urdu is simply a dialect or style of Western Hindi. Before the Partition of India, Delhi, Lucknow, Aligarh and Hyderabad used to be the four literary centers of Urdu — none of which lie in present Pakistan.

The colloquial language spoken by the people of Delhi is indistinguishable by ear, whether it is called Hindi or Urdu by its speakers. The only important distinction at this level is in the script: if written in the Perso-Arabic script, the language is generally considered to be Urdu, and if written in devanagari it is generally considered to be Hindi. However, since independence the formal registers used in education and the media have become increasingly divergent in their vocabulary. Where there is no colloquial word for a concept, Standard Urdu uses Perso-Arabic vocabulary, while Standard Hindi uses Sanskrit vocabulary. This results in the official languages being heavily Sanskritized or Persianized, and nearly unintelligible to speakers educated in the other standard (as far as the formal vocabulary is concerned).

These two standardized registers of Hindustani have become so entrenched as separate languages that many extreme-nationalists, both Hindu and Muslim, claim that Hindi and Urdu have always been separate languages. The tensions reached a peak in the Hindi-Urdu controversy in 1867 in the then United Provinces during the British Raj. However, there were and are unifying forces as well. For example, it is said that Indian Bollywood films are made in "Hindi", but the language used in most of them is the same as that of Urdu speakers in Pakistan.

Phonology

Consonants

	Bilabial		Labio-dental	Dental		Alveolar	Retroflex		Post-alveolar/ Palatal		Velar		Glottal
Stop	p p ^h	b b ^h		t t ^h	d d ^h		t t ^h	ɖ ɖ ^h			k k ^h	g g ^h	
Affricate									tʃ tʃ ^h	dʒ dʒ ^h			
Nasal	m					n	(ɳ)						
Fricative			f			s	z		ʃ				ɦ
Tap or Flap						r	(ɽ) (ɽ ^h)						
Approximant			v						j				
Lateral approximant						l							

Writing system

Hindi is written in the Devanagari script, an abugida which is written from left to right.

Transliteration Conventions

The standard transliteration of Hindi into the Roman alphabet is usually the IAST scheme, whereby the retroflex consonants (retroflex *t*, *d*, their aspirates, *n*, vowel-like *r*) and the breath *h* are shown with a dot beneath; the long vowels are shown with a macron or a bar (as *ā* above); aspiration of a plosive is shown with a following *h*; and elided *a*'s are removed for a truer correspondence to speech. Other alphabet characters are pronounced as in normal English. Another transliteration (ITRANS) uses capital letters of English to transcribe the long vowels and retroflex consonants. However, since English is a lingua franca of the educated Indians, and since computer keyboards do not have features for typing the IAST characters, Indians today use a casual transliteration into English for Hindi words; in such a casual transliteration, used especially in online chatting, the retroflex and dental consonants are not differentiated, and neither the short and the long vowels (except that sometimes people double the alphabet to indicate a long vowel).

Grammar

Despite Hindi and English both being Indo-European languages, Hindi grammar is different in many ways from what English speakers are used to. Most notably, Hindi is a subject-object-verb language, meaning that verbs usually fall at the end of the sentence rather than before the object (as in English). Hindi also shows mixed ergativity so that, in some cases, verbs agree with the object of a sentence rather than the subject. Unlike English, Hindi has **no** definite article (*the*). The numeral *ek* might be used as the indefinite singular article (*a/an*) if this needs to be stressed.

In addition, Hindi uses postpositions (so called because they are placed after nouns) where English uses prepositions. Other differences include gender, honorifics, interrogatives, use of cases, and different tenses. While being complicated, Hindi grammar is fairly regular, with irregularities being relatively limited. Despite differences in vocabulary and writing, Hindi grammar is nearly identical with Urdū. The concept of punctuation having been entirely unknown before the advent of the Europeans, Hindi punctuation uses western conventions for commas, exclamation points, and question marks. Periods are sometimes used to end a sentence, though the traditional "full stop" (a vertical line) is also used.

Genders

In Hindi, there are only two genders for nouns. All male human beings and male animals (or those animals and plants which are perceived to be "masculine") are *masculine*. All female human beings and female animals (or those animals and plants which are perceived to be "feminine") are *feminine*. Things, inanimate articles and abstract nouns are also either masculine or feminine according to convention, which must be memorised by non-Hindi speakers if they wish to learn correct Hindi. While this is the same as Urdū and similar to many other Indo-European languages such as French and Spanish, it is a challenge for those who are used to only the English language, which although an Indo-European language, has dropped nearly all of its gender inflection.

The ending of a word, if a vowel, usually helps in this gender classification. Among *tatsam* words, the masculine words of Sanskrit remain masculine in Hindi, and same is the case for the feminine. Sanskrit neuter nouns usually become masculine in Hindi. Among the *tadbhav* words, if a word end in long /*ɑː*/, it is normally masculine. If a word ends in /*iː*/ or /*in*/, it is normally feminine. The gender of words borrowed from Arabic and Persian is determined either by phonology (usually the last vowel in the word) or by the gender of the nearest Hindi equivalent. The gender assignment of Hindi words directly borrowed from English (which are numerous) is also usually determined by the gender of the nearest Hindi "synonym" or by the ending. Most adjectives ending in a vowel are inflected to agree with the gender of the noun: /*meriː beṭiː*/ 'my daughter' vs. /*meraː beṭɑː*/ 'my son'.

Interrogatives

Besides the standard interrogative terms of who (कौन *kaun*), what (क्या *kyaa*), why (क्यों *kyō*), when (कब *kab*), where (कहाँ *kahā*), how and what type (कैसा *kaisaa*), how many (कितना *kitnaa*), etc, the Hindi word *kyaa* (क्या) can be used as a generic interrogative often placed at the beginning of a sentence to turn a statement into a Yes/No question. This makes it clear when a question is being asked. Questions can also be formed simply by modifying intonation, exactly as some questions are in English.

Pronouns

Hindi has pronouns in the first, second and third person for one gender only. Thus, unlike English, there is no difference between *he* or *she*. More strictly speaking, the third person of the pronoun is actually the same as the demonstrative pronoun (this / that). The verb, upon conjugation, usually indicates the difference in the gender. The pronouns have additional cases of accusative and genitive, but no vocative. There may also be binary ways of inflecting the pronoun in the accusative case. Note that for the second person of the pronoun (*you*), Hindi has three levels of honorifics:

- **आप** (/ɑːp/): Formal and respectable form for *you*. Has no difference between the singular and the plural. Used in all formal settings and speaking to persons who are senior in job or age. Plural could be stressed by saying **आप लोग** (/ɑːp lɔɡ/ *you people*) or **आप सब** (/ɑːp səb/ *you all*).
- **तुम** (/t̪um/): Informal form of *you*. Has no difference between the singular and the plural. Used in all informal settings and speaking to persons who are junior in job or age. Plural could be stressed by saying **तुम लोग** (/t̪um lɔɡ/ *you people*) or **तुम सब** (/t̪um səb/ *you all*).
- **तू** (/t̪uː/): Extremely informal form of *you*, as *thou*. Strictly singular, its plural form being /t̪um/. Except for very close friends or poetic language involving God, it could be perceived as offensive in India.

Imperatives (requests and commands) correspond in form to the level of honorific being used, and the verb inflects to show the level of respect and politeness desired. Because imperatives can already include politeness, the word "kripyā", which can be translated as "please", is much less common than in spoken English; it is generally only used in writing or announcements, and its use in common speech may even reflect mockery.

Word order

The standard word order in Hindi is, in general, Subject Object Verb, but where different emphasis or more complex structure is needed, this rule is very easily set aside (provided that the nouns/pronouns are always followed by their postpositions or case markers). More specifically, the standard order is 1. Subject 2. Adverbs (in their standard order) 3. Indirect object and any of its adjectives 4. Direct object and any of its adjectives 5. Negation term or interrogative, if any, and finally the 6. Verb and any auxiliary verbs. (Snell, p93) The standard order can be modified in various ways to impart emphasis on particular parts of the sentence. Negation is formed by adding the word **नहीं** (*nahī*, "no"), in the appropriate place in the sentence, or by utilizing **न** (*na*) or **मत** (*mat*) in some cases. Note that in Hindi, the adjectives precede the nouns they qualify. The auxiliaries always follow the main verb. Also, Hindi speakers or writers enjoy considerable freedom in placing words to achieve stylistic and other socio-psychological effects, though not as much freedom as in heavily inflected languages.^[18]

Tense and aspect of Hindi verbs

Hindi verbal structure is focused on aspect with distinctions based on tense usually shown through use of the verb *honā* (to be) as an auxiliary. There are three aspects: habitual (imperfect), progressive (also known as continuous) and perfective. Verbs in each aspect are marked for tense in almost all cases with the proper inflected form of *honā*. Hindi has four simple tenses, present, past, future (presumptive), and subjunctive (referred to as a mood by many linguists).^[19] Verbs are conjugated not only to show the number and person (1st, 2nd, 3rd) of their subject, but also its gender. Additionally, Hindi has imperative and conditional moods. The verbs must agree with the person, number and gender of the subject if and only if the subject is not followed by any postposition. If this condition is not met, the verb must agree with the number and gender of the object (provided the object does not have any postposition). If this condition is also not met, the verb agrees with neither. It is this kind of phenomenon that is called mixed ergativity.

Case

Hindi is a weakly inflected language for case; the relationship of a noun in a sentence is usually shown by **postpositions** (i.e., prepositions that *follow* the noun). Hindi has three cases for nouns. The **Direct case** is used for nouns not followed by any postpositions, typically for the subject case. The **Oblique case** is used for any nouns that is followed by a postposition. Adjectives modifying nouns in the oblique case will inflect that same way. Some nouns have a separate **Vocative case**. Hindi has two numbers: singular and plural—but they may not be shown distinctly in all declinations.

Sample Text

See also: Urdu#Examples

The following is a sample text in High Hindi, of the Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (by the United Nations):

अनुच्छेद 1 — सभी मनुष्यों का गौरव और अधिकारों के मामले में जन्मजात स्वतन्त्रता प्राप्त है। उन्हें बुद्धि और अन्तरात्मा की देन प्राप्त है और परस्पर उन्हें भाईचारे के भाव से बर्ताव करना चाहिये।

Transliteration (IAST):

anucched 1 — sabhī manuṣyaṃ ko gaurav aur adhikāraṃ ke māmle meṃ janmajāt svatantratā prāpt hai. Unheṃ buddhi aur antarātmā kī den prāpt hai aur paraspar unheṃ bhāicāre ke bhāv se bartāv karnā cāhiye.

Gloss (word-to-word):

Article 1 — *All human-beings to dignity and rights' matter in from-birth freedom acquired is. Them to reason and conscience's endowment acquired is and always them to brotherhood's spirit with behaviour to do should.*

Translation (grammatical):

Article 1 — All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Literature

Entertainment and showbusiness

Further information: Bollywood songs

Hindi films play an important role in popular culture. The dialogues and songs of Hindi films use *Khariboli* and Hindi-Urdu in general, but the intermittent use of various dialects such as Awadhi, Rajasthani, Bhojpuri, Punjabi and quite often Bambaiya Hindi, as also of many English words, is common.

Alam Ara (1931), which ushered in the era of "talkie" films in India, was a Hindustani film. This film had seven songs in it. Music soon became an integral part of Hindustani/ Hindi cinema. It is a very important part of popular culture and now comprises an entire *genre* of popular music. So popular is film music that songs filmed even 50-60 years ago are a staple of radio/TV and are generally very familiar to an Indian.

Hindi movies and songs are popular in many parts of India, such as Punjab, Gujarat and Maharashtra, that do not speak Hindi as a native language. Indeed, the Hindi film industry is largely based at Mumbai (Bombay), in the Marathi-speaking state of Maharashtra. Hindi films are also popular abroad, especially in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Iran and UK.

The role of radio and television in propagating Hindi beyond its native audience cannot be overstated. Television in India was controlled by the central government until the proliferation of satellite TV rendered regulation redundant. During the era of control, Hindi predominated on both radio and TV, enjoying more air-time than local languages. After the advent of satellite TV, several private channels emerged to compete with the government's official TV channel. Today, a large number of satellite channels provide viewers with much variety in entertainment. These include soap operas, detective serials, horror shows, dramas, cartoons, comedies, host shows for Hindi songs, Hindu mythology and documentaries.

Common Phrases

English	Hindi (Transliteration)	Hindi (Devanagari)
Hindi	<i>hindī</i>	हिन्दी
English	<i>aṅgrezī</i>	अंग्रेज़ी
Yes	<i>hāṃ</i>	हाँ
You ¹	<i>āp (Formal)</i>	आप
You ²	<i>tum (Informal)</i>	तुम
You ³	<i>tū (used intimately, often derogatory)</i>	तू
No	<i>nahīṃ</i>	नहीं
Hi/Hello	<i>namaste</i>	नमस्ते
Goodbye	<i>namaste, alvidā, khudā hāfiz</i>	नमस्ते, अलविदा

How are you?	<i>āp kaise haiṅ</i>	आप कैसे हैं?
See you	<i>phir mileṅge</i>	फिर मिलेंगे
Thank you	<i>dhanyavād, shukriyā</i>	धन्यवाद, शुक्रिया
I'm Sorry	<i>kshamā kījiye (also māf kījiye)</i>	क्षमा कीजिये (माफ कीजिये)
Why?	<i>kyoṅ ?</i>	क्यों?
Who?	<i>kaun ?</i>	कौन?
What?	<i>kyā ?</i>	क्या?
When?	<i>kab ?</i>	कब?
Where?	<i>kahāṅ ?</i>	कहाँ?
How?	<i>kaise ?</i>	कैसे?
How much?	<i>kitne ?</i>	कितने?
I did not understand	<i>maiṅ samjhā nahīṅ</i>	मैं समझा नहीं
Help me (please) Help me!	<i>mere madad kījiye / sahāyatā kījiye!</i>	मेरी मदद कीजिये / सहायता कीजिये
Do you speak English?	<i>kyā āp aṅgrezī bolte haiṅ ?</i>	क्या आप अंग्रेज़ी बोलते हैं?
Time please? Time please?	<i>samay kyā huā ? / kitne baje haiṅ ?</i>	समय क्या हुआ? / कितने बजे हैं?
I do not know	<i>mujhe nahīṅ patā</i>	मुझे नहीं पता

Hinglish

"Hinglish" is the use of Hindi and English, combining both, in one sentence. This is more commonly seen in urban and semi-urban centers of population, but is slowly spreading its root into rural and remote areas via television and word of mouth, slowly achieving vernacular status. Many speakers do not realize that they are incorporating English words into Hindi sentences or Hindi words into English sentences.

This highly popular mixing of both the languages in most parts of northern and central India has grown from the fact that English is a popular language of choice amongst the urban youth who find themselves comfortable in its lexicon. It is already the medium for imparting education in many schools across the nation. The advent of cable television and its pervasive growth has seen the masses exposed to a wide variety of programming from across the world.

Another factor contributing to the spread of Hinglish is the popularity of Bollywood films.

Examples

- "Dad, *time* kyā huā hai?" (Dad, what is the time right now?).
- "I have *hazār* things on my mind right now." (I have thousands of things on my mind right now.)
- "Mama, mujhe *mall* se *jeans* lenī hai." (Mama, I want to buy jeans from the mall).

See also

- Hindi Programming Language
- Hindi literature
- History of Hindi
- Anti-Hindi agitations
- Hindi Wikipedia
- Hindustani (Hindi-Urdu) word etymology
- Hinglish
- Languages of India and Official languages of India
- List of Indian languages by total speakers
- Complex Text Layout languages
- * *The list of Hindi words and list of words of Hindi origin at Wiktionary, the free dictionary and Wikipedia's sibling project

References

Notes

1. ^ Central Hindi Directorate regulates the use of Devanagari script and Hindi spelling in India. Source: Central Hindi Directorate: Introduction (<http://hindinideshalaya.nic.in/hindi/introduction.html>)
2. ^ The Union: Official Languages (http://india.gov.in/knowindia/official_language.php)
3. ^ PDF from india.gov.in containing Articles 343 which states so (http://india.gov.in/govt/documents/english/Art243-395_89-184pp_.pdf)
4. ^ (McGregor 1993, p. 1071)
5. ^ *a b c* (Shapiro 2003, p. 251)
6. ^ SIL International's report on Hindi in its Ethnologue (http://www.ethnologue.com/14/show_language.asp?code=HND)
7. ^ Language Use and English-Speaking Ability: 2000 - Census 2000 Brief (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/c2kbr-29.pdf>) Issued October 2003. Retrieved 24 August 2006.
8. ^ <http://www2.ignatius.edu/faculty/turner/languages.htm>
9. ^ PDF (in Hindi & English) from india.gov.in to confirm the claims on rajbhasha (<http://india.gov.in/govt/documents/hindi/PARTXVII.pdf>)
10. ^ Article 344(1) (http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/in00002_.html#A344_) of the Constitution of India
11. ^ Shapiro, M: *Hindi*.
12. ^ Masica, p. 65
13. ^ Masica, p. 66
14. ^ Masica, p. 67
15. ^ Masica, p. 65
16. ^ (Shapiro 2003, p. 251-256)
17. ^ (Shapiro 2003, p. 252)
18. ^ Bhatia 1996: 32-33.

19. ^ Shapiro, M: "Hindi"

Bibliography

- Bhatia, Tej K. *Colloquial Hindi: The Complete Course for Beginners*. London, UK & New York, NY: Routledge, 1996. ISBN 0-415-11087-4 (Book), 0415110882 (Cassettes), 0415110890 (Book & Cassette Course)
- Grierson, G. A. *Linguistic Survey of India Vol I-XI*, Calcutta, 1928, ISBN 81-85395-27-6
- Hock, Hans H. (1991), *Principles of Historical Linguistics*, Walter de Gruyter, Berlin–New York, ISBN 3-11-012962-0
- McGregor, R. S. (1977), *Outline of Hindi Grammar*, 2nd Ed., Oxford University Press, Oxford-Delhi, ISBN 0-19-870008-3 (3rd ed.)
- Masica, Colin P. (1993). *The Indo-Aryan Languages*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ISBN 0-52129-944-6
- Ohala, Manjari (1999), "Hindi", in International Phonetic Association, *Handbook of the International Phonetic Association: a Guide to the Use of the International Phonetic Alphabet*, Cambridge University Press, 100-103, ISBN 9780521637510,
<http://books.google.com/books?id=33BSkFV_8PEC&pg=PA100&vq=%22manjari+ohala%22&dq=%22
- Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.) (2005), "Hindi", written at Dallas, *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (15th ed.), SIL International.
- Shapiro, Michael C. (2001), "Hindi", in Garry, Jane & Carl Rubino, *An encyclopedia of the world's major languages, past and present*, New England Publishing Associates, 305-309.
- Shapiro, Michael C. (2003), "Hindi", in Cardona, George & Dhanesh Jain, *The Indo-Aryan Languages*, Routledge, 250-285, ISBN 9780415772945.
- Snell, Rupert & Simon Weightman (1989), *Teach Yourself Hindi* (2003 ed.), McGraw-Hill, ISBN 9780071420129.
- Taj, Afroz (2002) *A door into Hindi* (http://www.ncsu.edu/project/hindi_lessons/) . Retrieved November 8, 2005.
- Tiwari, Bholanath ([1966] 2004) *हिन्दी भाषा (Hindī Bhāshā)*, Kitāb Mahal, Allahabad, ISBN 81-225-0017-X.

Dictionaries

- McGregor, R.S. (1993), *Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary* (2004 ed.), Oxford University Press, USA.

Further reading

- Bhatia, Tej K *A History of the Hindi Grammatical Tradition*. Leiden, Netherlands & New York, NY : E.J. Brill, 1987. ISBN 90-04-07924-6

External links

General

- Romanized to Unicode Hindi transliterator (<http://www.iit.edu/~laksvij/language/hindi.html>)
- Transcript of a debate in the Sixth session of the Tenth Lok Sabha (<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in/lsdeb/ls10/ses6/1603039303.htm>)
- Official Unicode Chart for Devanagari (PDF) (<http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0900.pdf>)

- The Union: Official Language (http://india.gov.in/knowindia/official_language.php)

Links to Hindi Wikimedia projects

- Hindi Wikipedia (<http://hi.wikipedia.org/>)
- Hindi Wiktionary (<http://hi.wiktionary.org/>)
- Hindi WikiSource (<http://en.wikisource.org/>)
- Hindi WikiBooks (<http://hi.wikibooks.org/>)
- Hindi WikiQuotes (<http://hi.wikiquote.org/>)

Retrieved from "<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi>"

Categories: All articles with unsourced statements | Articles with unsourced statements since July 2007 | Articles needing additional references from July 2007 | Articles with unsourced statements since November 2007 | Hindi | Hindustani | Indo-Aryan languages | Languages of India

-
- This page was last modified 22:51, 2 December 2007.
 - All text is available under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License. (See **Copyrights** for details.)
Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a U.S. registered 501(c)(3) tax-deductible nonprofit charity.