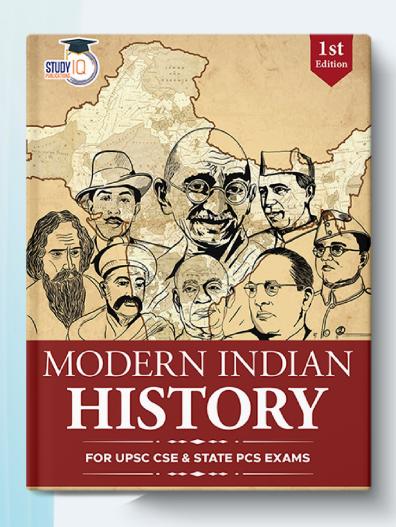
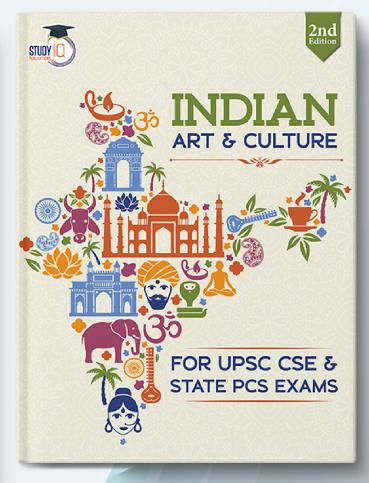
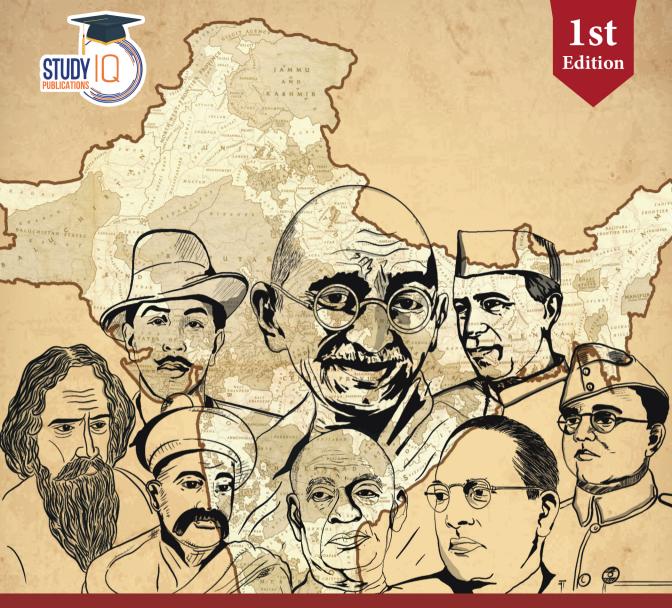


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# Modern Indian History & Indian Art & Culture







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FOR UPSC CSE & STATE PCS EXAMS

# From the Founder's Desk

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Mohit Jindal, IIT-Bombay Co-Founder, Study IQ Education Mentoring UPSC CSE Aspirants for past 7 years

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# SAMPLE PAGES

54 Modern History

The British East India Company, which came to India for trade in the early 17th C, gained footing in India in 1612 after Mughal emperor Jahangir granted the rights to establish a factory (a trading post) in Surat. However, the formal British rule in India had commenced only after the Battle of Plassey in 1757 when the Nawab of Bengal surrendered his dominions to the British East India Company. Henceforth the British Company transformed from a commercial trading venture to a political entity which virtually ruled India.

# **CONQUEST OF BENGAL**

The British conquest consolidation in India started with the subjugation of Bengal to the British imperialist system.

# RISE OF BRITISHERS IN BENGAL

Bengal, the richest province of the Mughal Empire, constituted the present-day Bangladesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Odisha. The economic significance of Bengal was due to its renowned textiles, silk, and salt. Bengal's exports to Europe included salt, rice, indigo, pepper, sugar, silk, cotton textiles, and various handicrafts. The English East India Company had vital commercial interests in Bengal, as nearly sixty percent of British imports from Asia were Bengali goods.

- In 1651, the first English factory in Bengal was founded in Hugli with permission from Sultan Shuja, the second son of Emperor Shahjehan and Subahdar of Bengal. In the same year, for a nominal lump sum payment of Rs. 3,000 (350 pounds), the Subahdar granted the Company the privilege of free trade throughout Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. Soon after that, factories were established in Kasimbazar, Patna, and other areas of the province.
- In 1698, the English purchased from Subahdar Azim-us-Shan, for Rs. 1,200, the zamindari of the villages of Sutanuti, Kalikata, and Govindapur, the present location of Calcutta.
- In 1717 Emperor Farrukhsiyar confirmed the trade privileges granted by earlier Subahdars

of Bengal, besides permission to the Company to rent additional territory around Calcutta. The company's total exports from Bengal amounted to over £50,000 per annum.

# **FALL OF BENGAL**

# Conflict between the Company and the Nawab

The farman, given by emperor Farruksiyar, became a source of conflict between the Company and Murshid Quli Khan, the new autonomous ruler of Bengal. The farman meant loss of revenue to the Bengal government and the power to issue the dastaks for the company's good was misused by Company's servants to evade taxes on their private trade. The company had been compelled to accept the authority of the Nawabs in the matter. But the servants had taken every opportunity to evade and defy the authority of Nawabs. The conflict between the Bengal nawab and the English Company had thus started developing right from 1717.

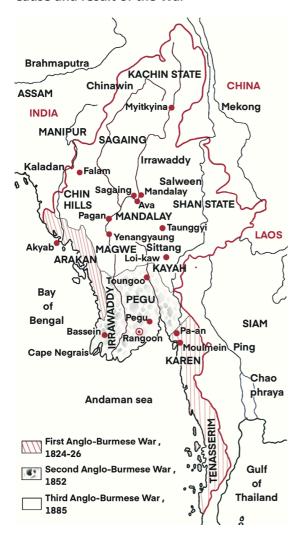
# Hostilities between the English and the French

The outbreak of the Austrian Succession War in Europe in 1740 brought in hostilities between the English and the French Companies to India. In Bengal the new nawab Alivardi Khan kept both of them under control and forbade them from getting involved in any open hostilities. But French victories in south India made the English apprehensive in Bengal as they had very little trust in the power of the nawab to protect them against any French onslaught.

## Tussle with Siraj-ud-daula

Alivardi Khan died on 9 April 1756 and was succeeded by his grandson, Siraj-ud-daula. The conflict assumed critical dimensions when Siraj-ud-daula threatened the lucrative English private trade by stopping all misuse of dastaks. Instead of agreeing to pay taxes on their goods to the Nawab, they levied heavy duties on Indian goods entering Calcutta which was under their control. All this angered the Nawab. Nawab also suspected that the company was hostile to him and was favoring his rivals for the throne of Bengal.

### Cause and result of the War



Burmese King Mindon was succeeded by King Thaibaw. The British interfered in the internal matters of Burma under the grab of preventing the alleged cruelties of King Thibaw. The British claimed that they wanted to protect the citizens of upper Burma from their own king. Thibaw had been negotiating commercial treaties with the rival powers of British i.e. France, Germany and Italy. This was not liked by the British. The French also planned to lay a rail link from Mandalay to the French territory at a time when the British were in conflict

with the French in Niger, Egypt and Madagascar. The French had also seized Annam (Central Vietnam) in 1883, laying the groundwork for their Indo-China colony. They were actively pursuing North Vietnam, which they conquered between 1885 and 1889, as well as Thailand and Burma in the west. The British chambers of commerce and British merchants in Rangoon pressed the willing British government to annex upper Burma immediately. The Burmese government accused the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation of bribing local officials. Huge fine was imposed on a British timber company by Thibaw. On November 13, 1885, a British invasion was launched.

On November 28, 1885, King Thibaw surrendered, and his kingdom was quickly annexed by the Indian Empire under Dufferin. In later years, there was a nationalist movement in Burma during the First World War. The Burmese joined hands with the Indian National Congress. To weaken their alliance, the British separated Burma from India in 1935. Independence movement during the Second World War intensified and under the leadership of U Aung San, the Burmese people got their independence in 1948.

# ANGLO-NEPALESE RELATIONSHIP

## **Background**

The British desire to extend their Indian Empire to its natural geographical frontier brought them into conflict with the northern kingdom of Nepal. The Nepal valley had been conquered in 1768 by the Gurkhas (western Himalayan Tribe). From the Nepal Terai, Gurkhas now began to push southward. In the meanwhile, the British conquered Gorakhpur in 1801. This brought the two expanding powers (British and Gurkhas) face to face across an ill-defined border between India and Nepal.

Also in 1801, the British sought to obtain a treaty from Nepal (signed in October 1801) in which the Nepalese agreed to allow an English Resident at Kathmandu. The Resident was under order to investigate the economy. But due to the hostility

Arrival of Gandhi 227

Style of politics and leadership: South Africa provided Gandhiji with an opportunity for evolving his own style of politics and leadership, for trying out new techniques of struggle, on a limited scale. He evolved the movement from its 'Moderate' phase into its "Gandhian" phase. He already knew the strengths and the weaknesses of the Gandhian method and he was convinced that it was the best method around. It now remained for him to introduce it into India.

# **GANDHI'S RETURN TO INDIA**

Gandhiji returned to India, on 9th January 1915 (Major reason why it is celebrated as Pravasi Bhartiya Divas in India currently). He was warmly welcomed. His work in South Africa was well-known to Indian masses. Gandhi was advised by his mentor Gopalkrishna Gokhale to tour India for a year before embarking upon any political work.

Gandhi then spent one entire year touring the country and studying all the situations with great care. During this year, he organised his ashram in Ahmedabad wherein he and his followers from S. Africa would lead a community life. The next year as well, he continued to maintain his distance from

political affairs, including the Home Rule Movement that was gathering momentum at this time.

Gandhi's own political understanding did not coincide with any of the political currents that were active in India then. Over the span of two years, Gandhiji came to a conclusion that the only best way to tackle the colonial problem in India was Satyagraha. He didn't subscribe to the ideas of the Home Rule movement since he didn't find it quite right to revolt against the British especially when they were in difficulty because of the First World War. Also, his faith in 'Moderate' means of struggle was totally eroded. The Gandhian era is also known as the era of struggle.

Gandhi's reasons for not joining the existing political organizations just after his arrival in India can be explained in his own words: "At my time of life and with views firmly formed on several matters, I could only join an organization to affect its policy and not be affected by it. This does not mean that I would not now have an open mind to receive new light. I simply wish to emphasize the fact that the new light will have to be especially dazzling in order to entrance me."

In other words, Gandhiji could only join an organization or a movement that adopted non-violent Satyagraha as its method of struggle.



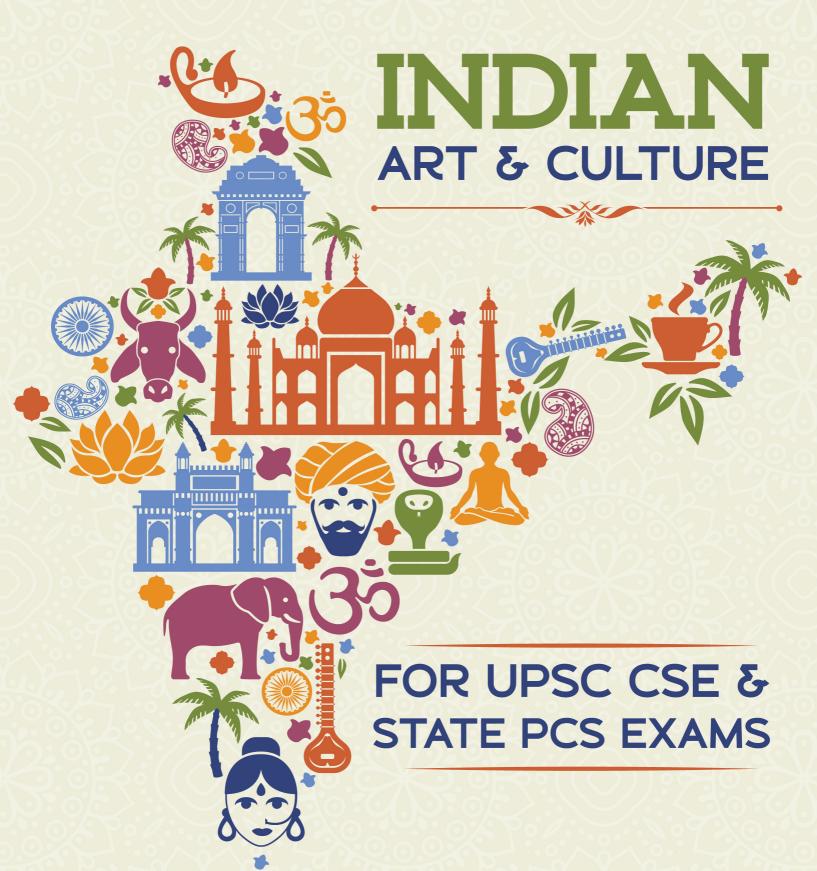
Gandhi and Gokhale together



# NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT AND KHILAFAT ANDOLAN (1919-22)







# From the Editorial Board

# Dear Aspirants,

We are incredibly grateful for the wonderful response we received for our Polity, History, Economy, and Geography books. Inspired by this positive feedback, we are thrilled to announce the release of the second edition of our book titled 'Indian Art and Culture'.

Indian Art and Culture has gained prominence in the UPSC examination, both in Prelims and Mains stage. Its weightage in the exam has been steadily increasing; despite this, there is a dearth of consolidated and updated material on the same subject. Students have to rely on multiple sources making their preparation more difficult.

This book was created taking into account the concern and challenges which the students face during preparing for the subject. The book aims to tackle all these problems, and along with this, it improves students' knowledge base thus saving their precious time and eliminating many academic misunderstandings that they encounter.

# **Special Features of This Book**

This book aims to make your preparation focused and relevant based on UPSC's current trend and pattern, it is revision-friendly, and up-to-date.

- The requirements of the UPSC Civil Services Examination are the exclusive focus of this book.
- We have taken great care to ensure that the materials are written in a clear and easy-to-understand, so that students may learn and recall the concepts to their advantage.
- Wherever necessary, we've incorporated diagrams and pictorial representation of art, culture and heritages of India to make learning interactive and easy.
- We have incorporated maps for easy retention of various topics like IVC sites, Ashoka edicts, Paintings, Folk dances etc.
- We have incorporated the relevant previous year's questions at the end of each chapter so that the students can test their knowledge while understanding the trend of the question.

With all sincerity and humility, the Study IQ team wishes you the best in your preparation, and we hope this book will help you in your journey.

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# SAMPLE PAGES

Indian Art and Culture

**Viharas:** It was the monastery where the monks used to live, and it acted as their accommodation during the rainy days. They were carved out of rocks as cave structures.

### Features:

- They all had common features like a veranda, a hall, and cells along the pathways.
- 2. They were simple regular square halls.
- **3.** They were surrounded by open cells accessible through an entrance porch.

**Example:** Kanheri (Mumbai, Maharashtra), Junnar (Pune, Maharashtra)



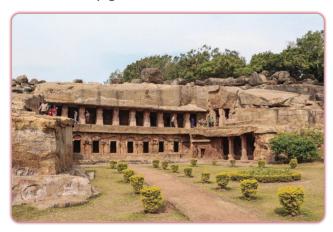
Kanheri Vihara

## Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves, Odisha

They were made under the Kalinga king Kharavela, in the 1st- 2nd century BC. The cave complex has both artificial and natural caves. There are 18 caves in Udayagiri and 15 in Khandagiri.

Udayagiri caves are famous for the **Hathigumpha inscription** which is carved out in **Brahmi script**. It tries to highlight the various military campaigns undertaken by the king Kharavela in its Inscriptions.

**Example:** Ranigumpha cave and Ganeshagumpha cave in Udayagiri.



Ranigumpha Cave

# **Stupas**

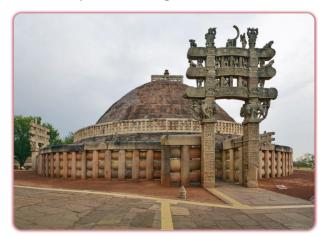
Several new features were added to the existing Stupas, and several new stupas were built in the Indian Subcontinent. The main work in the area of Stupas can be seen under the **Sunga dynasty.** Despite being Brahamanical in religion, they showed immense tolerance towards Buddhism. They established not only new stupas but also repaired several existing stupas.

### **Features:**

- 1. Sunga art was marked by its native style, simple and folk experiences.
- **2.** Sunga Rulers **introduced the Toranas** to the Stupa architecture that depicted the Jataka stories.
- They used stone on a large scale.
   Example: Bharhut and Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh.

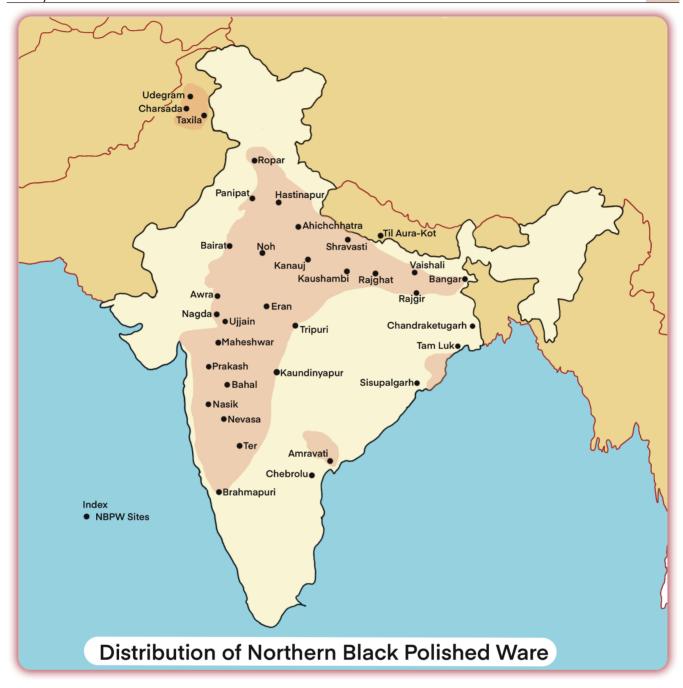
Apart from the Shunga dynasty, Stupas were also built in the Deccan area, especially **at Amravati and Nagarjunakonda**, which had some distinct features, such as:

- 1. Stupas were built of **Burnt Bricks and Stone**.
- 2. They had a Spoked-wheel ground plan.
- 3. The number of spokes from the wheel ranged from 4 to 10
- In some stupas of Nagarjunakonda, we find the Ayaka Pillar, representing the five important events of the life of Buddha.
- 5. Some stupas used the sign of Swastika.



Sanchi Stupa

Pottery 51



# **MEGALITHIC ERA**

The existence of Megalithic era pottery extends from the 3rd century BCE to the 1st century CE. Megalithic means big stone (Mega-Big, Lith-Stones). The megalithic era refers to the period with statues or monuments built of big stones. In South India, the Megalithic era is famous for using iron. The majority of the pots are concentrated in South India.



Sembiyankandiyur megalithic pottery with graffiti marks

144 Indian Art and Culture

# **Different Forms of String Puppetry**

# **Puppetry** Region **Major Features** Kathputli Rajasthan • The theme is based on stories from epics like Mahabharata and Ramayana. The puppets are made of wood. They are usually two feet in height, having a wooden head with a huge nose and large The rest of the body is prepared with colourful and bright pieces of cloth and stuffed clothes, allowing unrestricted movement. The puppets have **no legs** but are covered with a long pleated skirt unless they are horse riders. The costumes are regional and traditional. The **Bhatt community** makes these puppets as well as perform with them. Odisha Kundhei • The theme is based upon the stories from epics like Mahabharata and Ramayana. It also depicts the divine love stories of Radha and Krishna. Each show begins with an invocation and includes music, dance and drama. The puppets are made of light wood and are nearly 60cm tall. They have moveable joints for easy manipulation. The joints are attached from a string to a triangular control that the puppet master uses to control the movements. The dresses of the puppets are elaborate, often inspired by the Jatra look. The shows are usually performed on a small stage-like setup with painted backgrounds and curtains. A group of musicians accompanies the puppeteers. **Bommalattam Tamil Nadu** • The theme is based upon the tales of spirituality and mythology. It combines the techniques of both rod and string puppets. A single puppeteer presents the entire puppet show. The Bommalattam finger puppet dance begins with a homage to God and continues with humorous stories. There are 5 to 8 members in the puppet show troupe. The puppets are made of wood. The strings for manipulation are tied to an iron ring which the puppeteer wears like a crown on his head. These puppets are the largest, heaviest, and the most articulate of all traditional Indian marionettes. The puppets are made of cloth, wood, leather, or other materials. Gombeyatta Karnataka • The theme is based upon religious texts such as Mahabharata, Ramayana, and the Puranas. They are styled and designed like the characters of Yakshagana, the traditional theatre form of the region. The puppets' joints at the legs, shoulders, elbows, hips and knees. These puppets are manipulated by five to seven strings tied to a prop. Some of the complicated movements of puppets are performed by two to three puppeteers at a time. It is accompanied by music that is dramatic and beautifully blends folk and classical elements. Maharashtra Kalasutri Bahaulya • The theme is based upon episodes of the Ramayana. The performers are descendants of families of puppeteers that originally came from Rajasthan and Gujarat. The puppeteers offer prayers before the performance begins, which opens with the arrival of Ganesh riding on his rat. The goddess of knowledge, Saraswati, appears and dances The performance ends with the appearance on the stage of Shiva riding the bull Nandi. The small puppets are finely sculpted from wood. They wear elaborate headdresses, turbans and ornaments.

feet, which remain free.

Connected at the shoulders and knees, the puppets do not have strings attached to their

A single musician sings the text and alternately, in turn, plays the tabla and the cymbals.

Indian Art and Culture

- Another Vaishnavite, Jaydev the writer of Gita Govinda is one of the stalwarts of Odia literature.
- Upendra Bhanja's works like Baidehisha Bilasa, Koti Brahmanda Sundari and Labanyabati are considered landmarks of Odia Literature. He has been conferred the title "Kabi Samrat" of Odia literature for his aesthetic poetic sense and skill with words. He was also the pioneer of a new form of poetry called "Bandha kabita."
- The earliest Odia newspaper was Utkala Deepika, first published in 1866.

# **GUJARATI LITERATURE**

In Gujarat, due to the development of trade and commerce, the religious influence of Jainism as well as Hinduism, and also due to the encouragement of rulers like **Chalukyas (Solanki) and Vaghela Rajputs**, literary activities were in full force from the 11th century.

- The Jain monk and scholar Hemacandrācārya Suri was the first to pen a formal set of 'grammarian principles' for the Gujarati language, during the reign of the Chalukyas king Jayasimha Siddharaja of Anhilwara.
- Jain authors were the first to compose literature in the Gujarati language, in the form of Rāsas, Phāgus and Vilāsas.
- Among non-Jain writers of the time, Asait Thakar is considered a major contributor who wrote around 360 vesha of Bhavai. He is credited with bringing theatre to Gujarati literature.
- Abdur Raheman, who wrote Sandeshkarash, is considered the first Muslim writer of Gujarati literature.
- Also, Bhakti movement was at its peak in Gujarat and that affected the literature composed there:
  - Narsinh Mehta(15th century)
  - Narmad (19th century)
  - Govardhan Ram (19th-20th century), who wrote the novel 'Saraswati Chandra'.
- In modern times, Mahatma Gandhi, Ramnarayan V. Pathak, K. M. Munshi ("Prithivivallabh"), Swami Anand, Umashankar Joshi, Jhaverchand Meghani, Pannalal Patel, Jyotindra Dave, Chandravadan Mehta, Zinabhai Desai ("Snehrashmi"), Manubhai Pancholi ("Darshak"), and Ishwar Petlikar are the main contributors of the Gujarati literature.

# RAJASTHANI LITERATURE

Early Rajasthani literature is created mostly in the oral form, by the people of Charan tribe in two local dialects of Rajasthani:

- 1. **Dingal**, which was a dialect of western Rajasthan, and influenced by the Gujarati language.
- **2. Pingal,** which was a dialect of Eastern Rajasthan influenced by the Braj dialect of Hindi.
- Charans are known for their Khyats, a form of bardic historical prose to praise the Rajput kings. Khyats were primarily oral accounts that were textualised by the seventeenth century.
- Rajasthani literature is written in various genres starting from 1000 AD. But, it is generally agreed that modern Rajasthani literature began with the works of **Suryamal Misran** (poet-historian) of the Bundi kingdom in the 19th century. His most important works are the **Vansa Bhaskara** and the **Vir Satsai**.
- The Dhola Maru is another notable literature of Rajasthan, which is the romantic tale of Dhola and Maru in Rajasthan.

# SINDHI LITERATURE

Before the Arabs, Local Hindus ruled over Sindh. But after the advent of Arabs in 712, Sindh was amongst the first to come in contact with Islamic settlers in India, it explains the influence of Islam and Sufism on Sindhi poetry & literature.

- Sindhi was among the earliest Eastern languages into which the Quran was translated in the eighth or ninth century AD.
- Pir Nooruddin, an Ismaili missionary who lived in Sindh in 1079, wrote Sufi poetry in the Sindhi language. His verses, known as ginans, are an example of early Sindhi poetry.
- Abu Mashar Sindhi & Abu Raja Sindhi are other notable names.

# KASHMIRI LITERATURE

The local people of the Kashmir region used the Kashmiri language, and it had influences from Persian and Hindi dialects. The **Sharda script** was anciently used to write Kashmiri, however, now it is mostly written in the Perso-Arabic script or the Devanagari script.

 The use of the Kashmiri language began with the work Mahānaya-Prakāsha by Rājānaka Shiti Kantha (c.1250) and over the centuries the language developed far and wide.