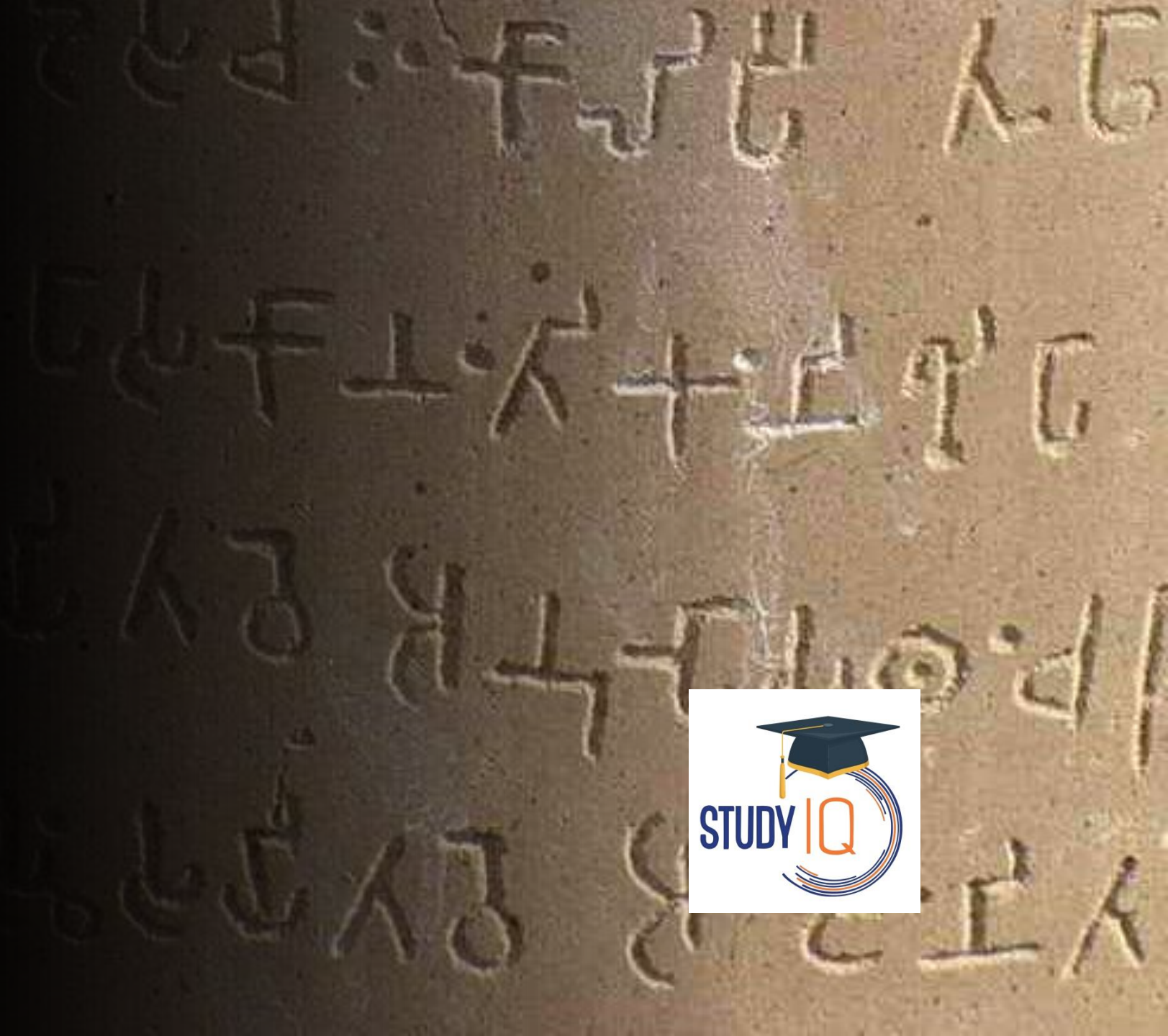
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

BY- ABHINAV RAJ



UNITY IN DIVERSITY

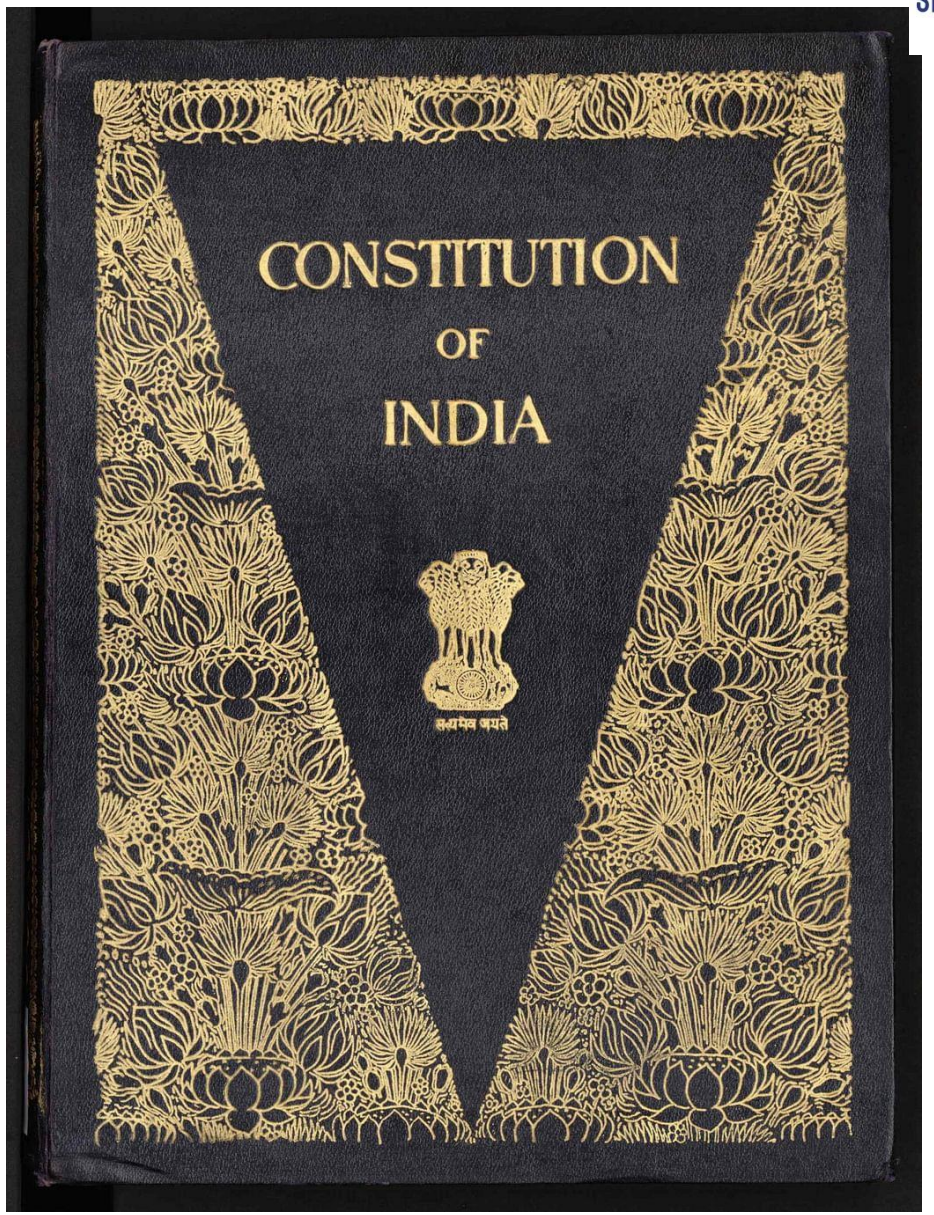
Bihar shows, as the language and its tone changes after every geographical variation even close to a distance about 15 kilometers.

The main spoken languages of Bihar are the **Magadhi, Bhojpuri, Maithili, Angika, Vajjika, Nagpuriya** all under the major dialect of Hindi



Introduction

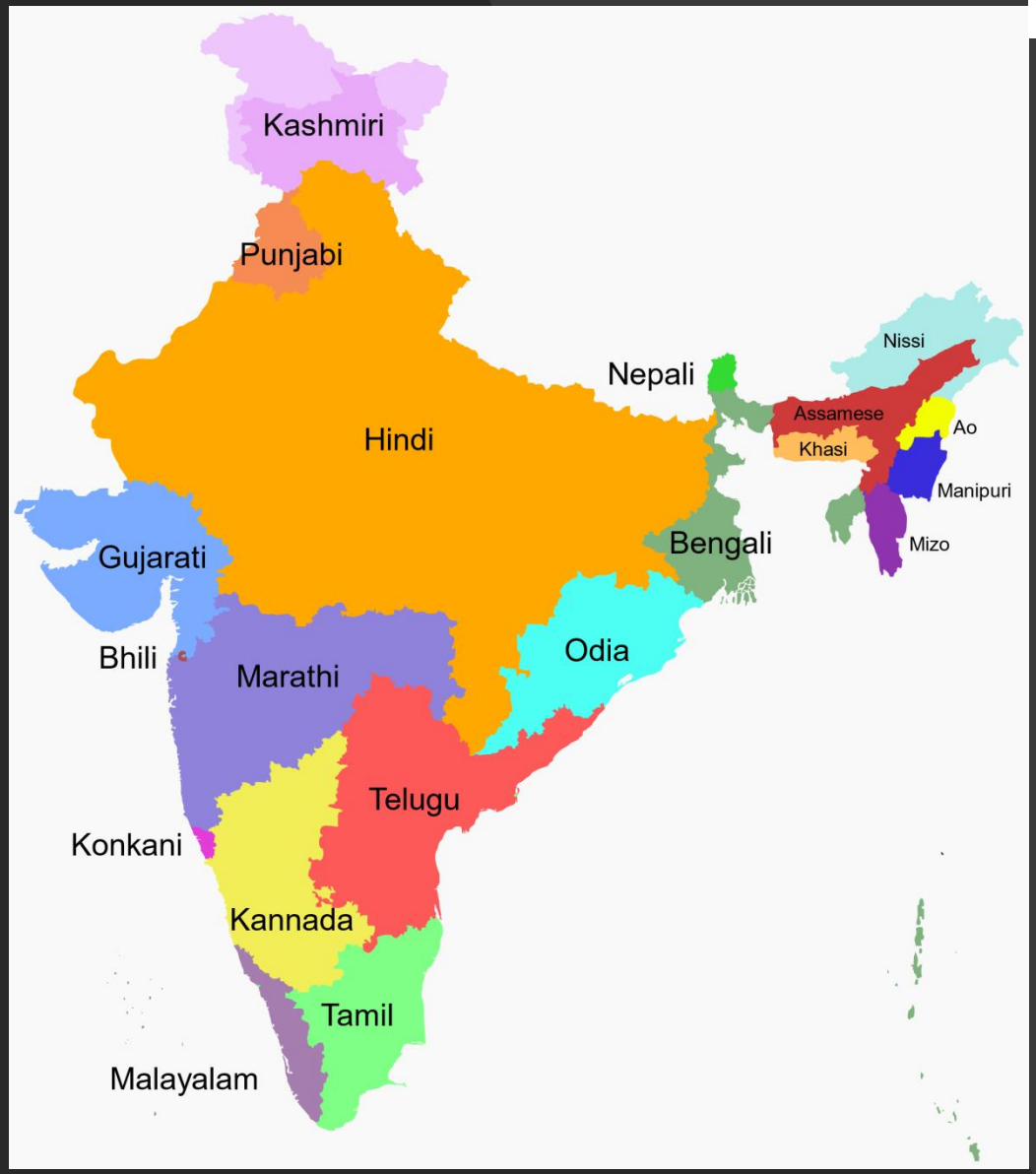
- In India there are 22 scheduled languages, 114 other languages, 216 mother tongues,96 non specified languages and totally up to 10000 languages spoken by the people in different region and part of India.
- In Bihar major language is Hindi that spoken by 80.9% of population and other are Urdu and Santali.

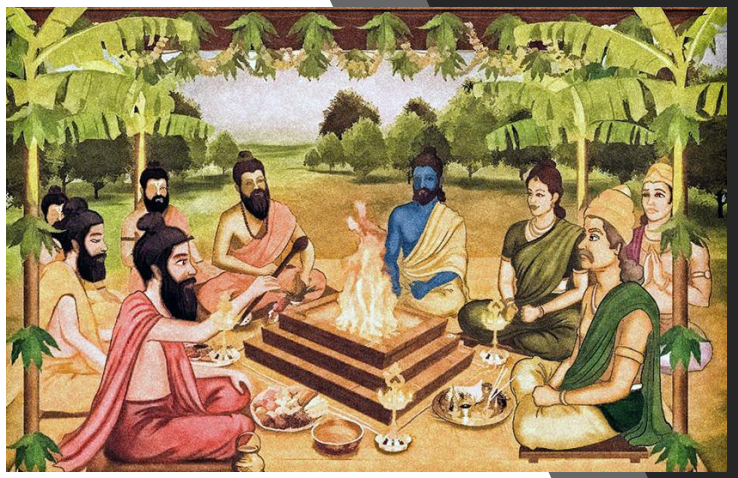


Classification

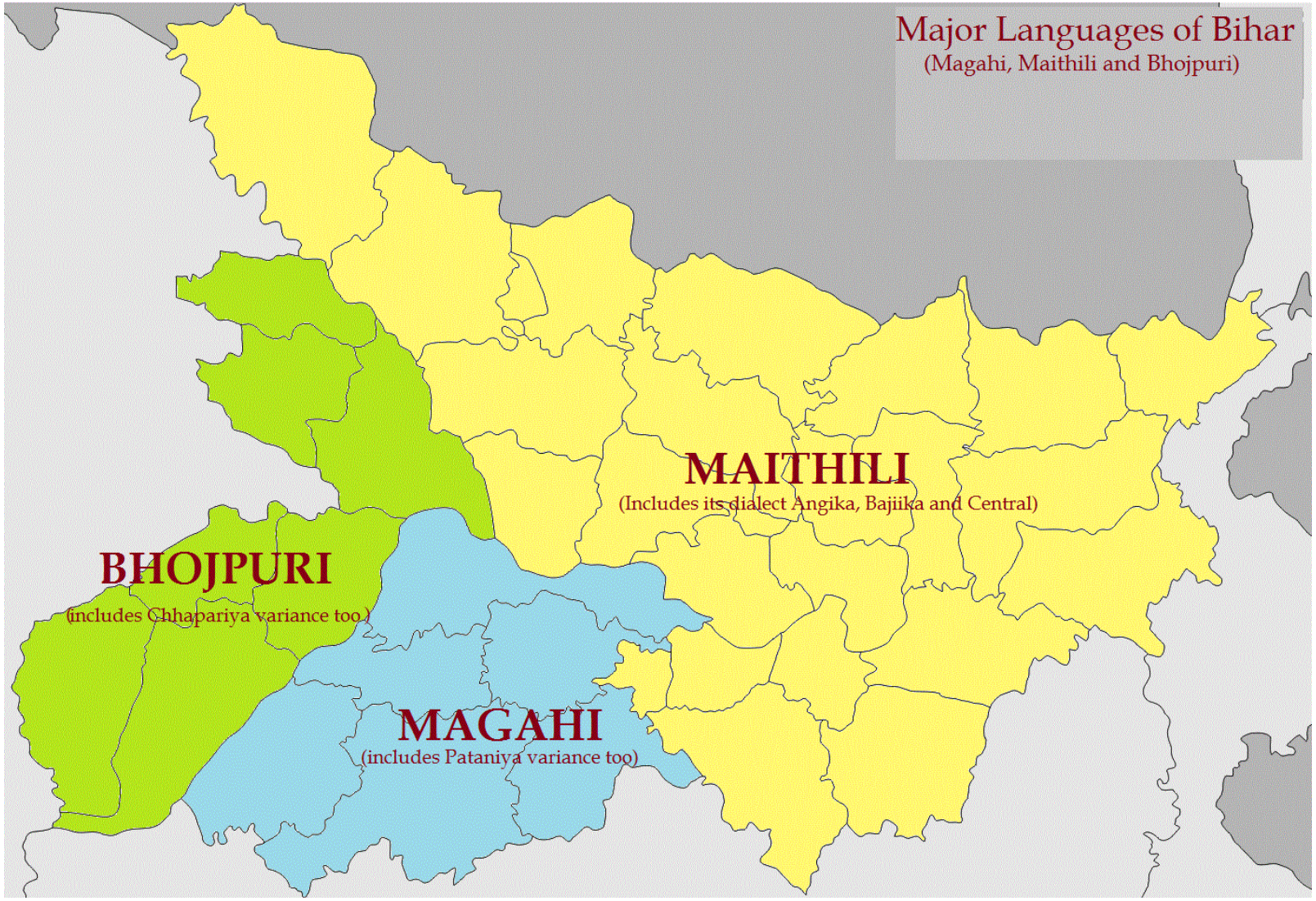
Indian languages have evolved from different stocks and are closely connected with the different ethnic groups/ people of India.Broadly the Indian languages can be put into six groups:

1. Indo-Aryan,
2. Dravidian,
3. Sino-Tibetan,
4. Negroid,
5. Austric





- These languages have interacted on one another through the centuries and have produced the major linguistic divisions of modern India. The Indo-Aryan and the Dravidian are the dominant groups and together comprises all the major languages of India. Bihari language belong to first one.


Major Languages of Bihar
(Magahi, Maithili and Bhojpuri)
MAITHILI
(Includes its dialect Angika, Bajiika and Central)
BHOJPURI
(includes Chhapariya variance too)
MAGAHI
(includes Pataniya variance too)

મગહી માષા



Magadhi



- *Magahi literature starts from Siddha saints those belong to Vrajyana School, that is corrupt form of Buddhism.*
- *It cannot be ignored that Nalanda, Udantapuri and Vikramsila were the main centres of Siddhas and their entire literature was written in the Siddha literature,which is probably the oldest form of Magahi.*
- *From the points of phonetics, grammar, vocabulary the language,siddha literature is quite similar to present Magahi.*

Magadhi



- The word ‘Maghi’ is a deviant of sanskrit word Magadhi.
- And the region in which this dialect is spoken is referred as Magadha.
- The ancient land of Magadha now roughly corresponds to the present districts of Patna and northern half of Gaya district.

Magadhi



- Though the Magahi language extends to the other parts of Bihar such as Nalanda,Aurangabad, Nawada, Monghyr, Giridih, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, North-eastern Palamau, Northern Ranchi and the other parts of Bihar, the purest form of Magahi is preserved only in the districts of Patna and Gaya.
- This may be referred as a ‘core region’ of the Magahi language.
- Core region preserves not only the purity of dialect and cultural distinctiveness, it also helps in the determination of and sealing in the variation of the dialect or language. Magahi linguistically bordered.

- During 1200 AD to 1400 AD, there are many saint poets who have written a rash religious literature,of themes some are; **Dharma Das, Badri Das (Salimpur, Patna), Chandan Das, Amrit Das(Jahanabad), Baba Kadam Das and Hemanth Das.** In the oldest Buddist literature Pali was referred again and again as Magadhi, the language of Buddha. **Kaccayana, the earliest grammarian of Pali** called it as Magadhi.





Historically, Magahi had no famous written literature. There are many popular songs throughout the area in which the language is spoken, and strolling bards recite various long epic poems which are known more or less over the whole of Northern India. **In Magahi spoken area folk singers sing a good number of ballads**.Some Magahi ballads are associated with dance. Among the large number of ballads sung throughout the lenghth and breadth is the Song of "**Gopi Chanda**",which has been published in 1885 with an English translation, in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. Ut, Part 1, 1886, pp. 36 .The another very popular poem, is the "**Song of Lorik**"**.**

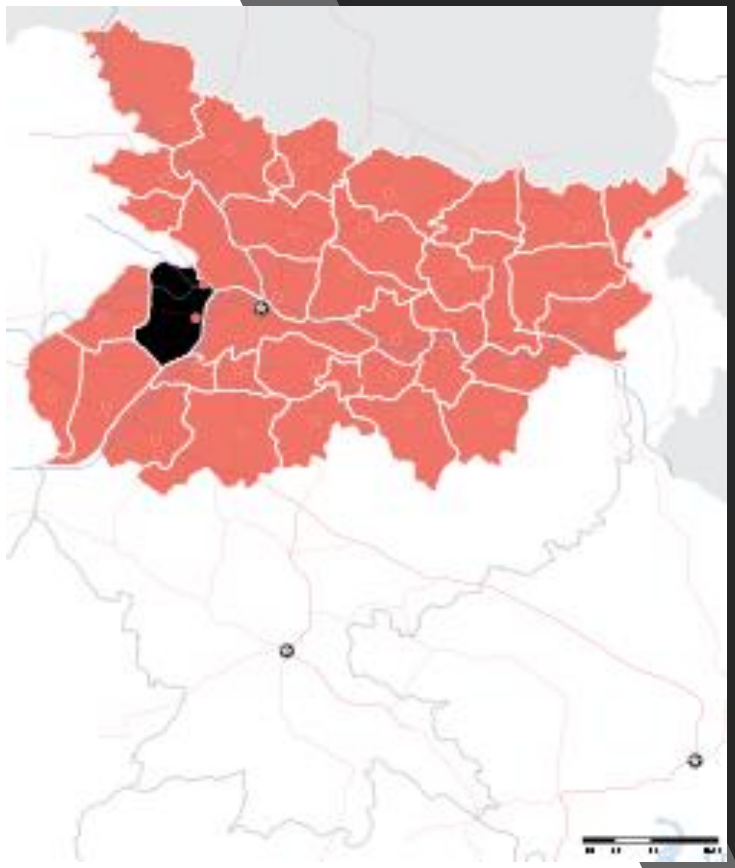
- At present also, there are some renowned poets and writers of Magahi, who have been contributing nice literary pieces.The real pioneer of Magahi poetry was “KRISHNADEVA PRASAD” a noted lawyer of Patna. He wrote poems in Magahi and also translated .Krishnadeva Babu began to write in Magahi spurred by his sister to do service to his mother tongue. “Dr. YOGESHWAR PRASAD SINGH” has also contributed a lot to the Magahi literature.



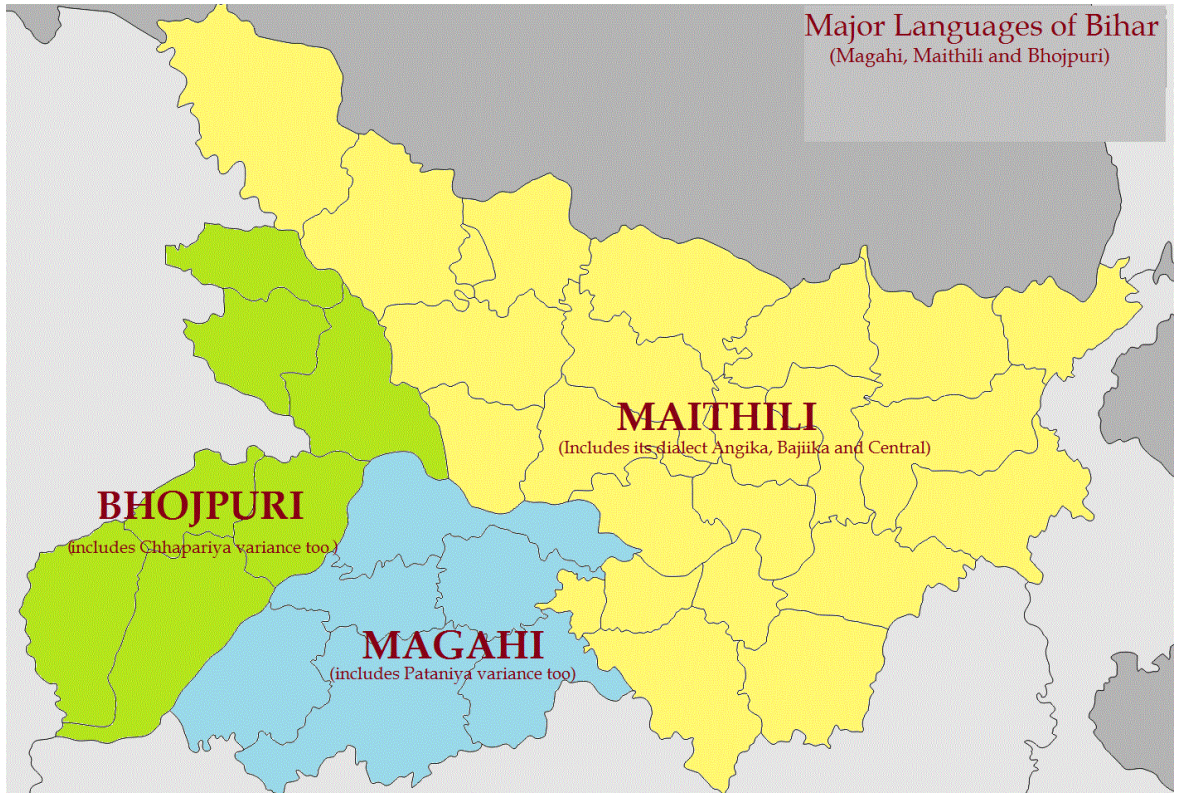
Bhojpuri

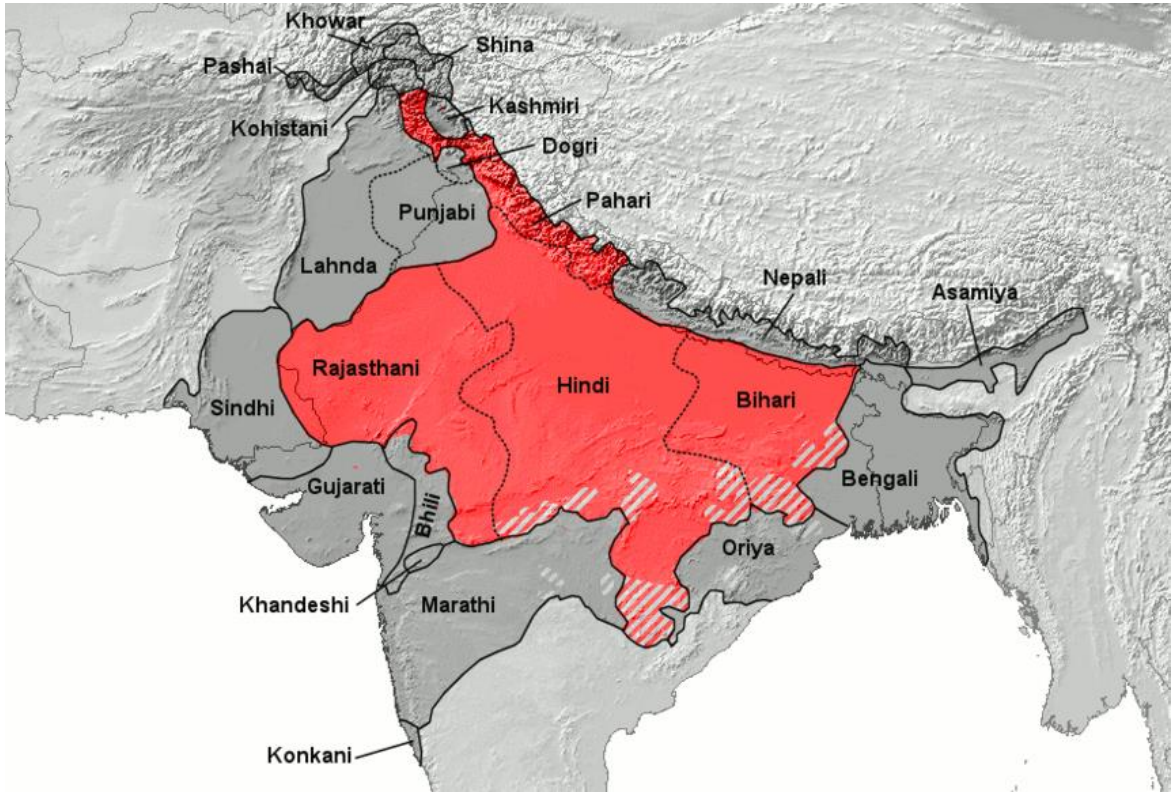

ભોળપુરી

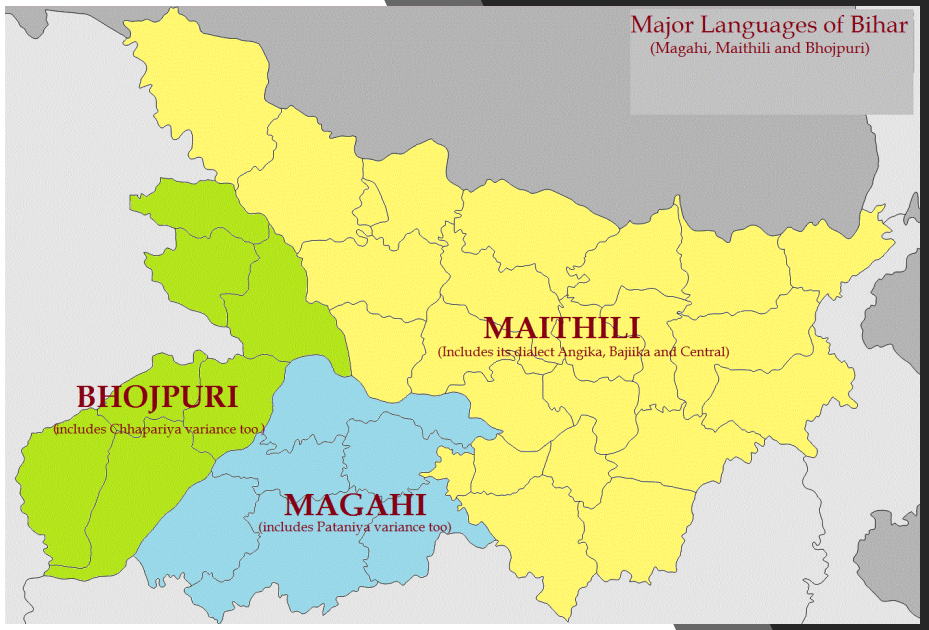
भोजपुरी
अ आ इ ई उ ऊ ए ऐ ओ औ अः अँ
a ā i ī u ū e ai o au aḥ ãṃ
[ʌ] [a] [i] [iː] [u] [uː] [e] [æː] [o] [ɔː] [əh] [ãː]
प पा पि पी पु पू पे पै पो पौ पः पाँ प्
pa pā pi pī pu pū pe pai po pau paḥ pāṃ p



- Properly speaking Bhojpuri is the language of Bhojpur, “the name of town or pargana in the North-West of the district of Shahabad.”
- In Bihar, the district in which it is spoken are Bhojpur, Rohtas, Chapra, Gopalganj,Siwan, Champaran, Motihari, Palamau, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, western portion of Vaishali and Muzaffarpur,20 besides in some parts of Santhal Pargana.
- Bhojpuri language and culture have always been under the influence of West and Western forms of speech like Brajbhasa, Awadhi and Hindostani.


Major Languages of Bihar
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Khowar
Shina
Pashai
Kashmiri
Kohistani
Dogri
Pahari
Punjabi
Lahnda
Nepali
Asamiya
Rajasthani
Hindi
Bihari
Sindhi
Gujarati
Bhili
Bengali
Oriya
Khandeshi
Marathi
Konkani



- Further, the history of Bhojpuri language and literature is connected with the social and spiritual movements that were launched in the 9th century by the Siddhas or various spiritual sects of that time in Bihar and Bengal.
- The Sant Sahitya produced Bhakti literature and was written in Bhojpuri language. This tradition continued upto 19th century.
- Except in this century, no conscious effort was ever made to cultivate this dialect. It is a folk-language of the rural people who expressed lares and tales through this language.

As a language spread over an area of almost 45,000 square miles, Bhojpuri obviously has dialects, essentially four of them, identified in the literature as:

Types of Bhojpuri

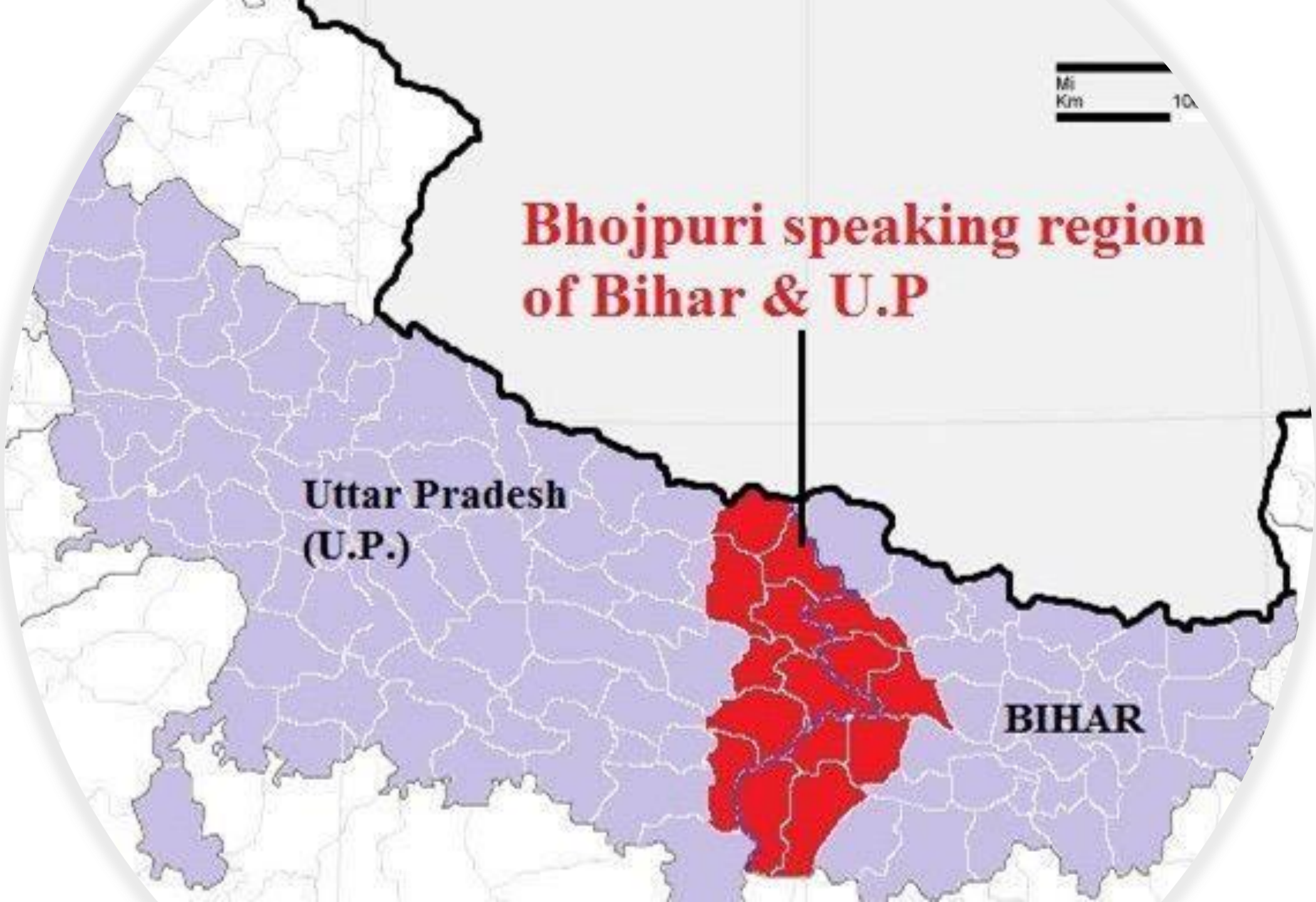
- Standard Bhojpuri (also referred to as Southern Standard)
- Northern Bhojpuri
- Western Bhojpuri
- Nagpuria

Tharu Bhojpuri

- Tharu Bhojpuri, is also recognised as the Bhojpuri spoken in the Nepal Terai and the adjoining areas in the upper strips of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, from Baharaich to Champaran.

Southern Standard Bhojpuri

- Southern Standard Bhojpuri covers the areas of **Bhojpur, Rohtas, Saran, parts of Champaran in Bihar**, and Ballia and eastern Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh. One may also come across a local name ‘Chaparahiya’ in Saran.


Bhojpuri speaking region
of Bihar & U.P
Uttar Pradesh
(U.P.)
BIHAR

- Lorikayan, or the story of *Veer Lorik*,is a famous Bhojpuri folklore of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.
- Bhikhari Thakur's *Bidesiya* is another famous book. **The first Bhojpuri novel *Bindiã* was written in 1956 by Ram Nath Pandey.**



Notable Bhojpuri novelists

- Notable Bhojpuri novelists are Ram Nath Pandey, Viveki Rai, Pandey Kapil , Ramesh Chandra Jha and Pradhyapak Achal who has written the famous bhojpuri novel *Sunnar kaka*.

Some of the notable novels are –

Phulsunghi (1977),

Bhor musukaail (1978),

Ghar-tola-gaon (1979),

Jinigi ke raah (1982),

Darad ke dahar (1983),

Achhoot (1986),

mahendar Misisr (1994),

Imiritiya Kaki (1997),

Amangal hari (1998),

Awa lavati chalin ja (2000),

Adhe aadh (2000) etc. of which *Phulsunghi* by Pandey kapil is one of the best novels written in Bhojpuri.

Amangal hari (1998) was written by Viveki Rai, a critic himself.

Surma Sagun Bichare Na is a notable novel written by Ramesh Chandra Jha.



- In folk tales and songs, one comes across the sociocultural, religious and politicalaspects of Bhojapuri life.
- Some of these songs are **Sohar, Jhumar, Purbi, Janeo-geet,Bahura, Sitala, Ropani ke geet, Parati, Bhajan, Nachari, Kajari** etc.

মৈথিনী মৈথিলী

Maithili:-

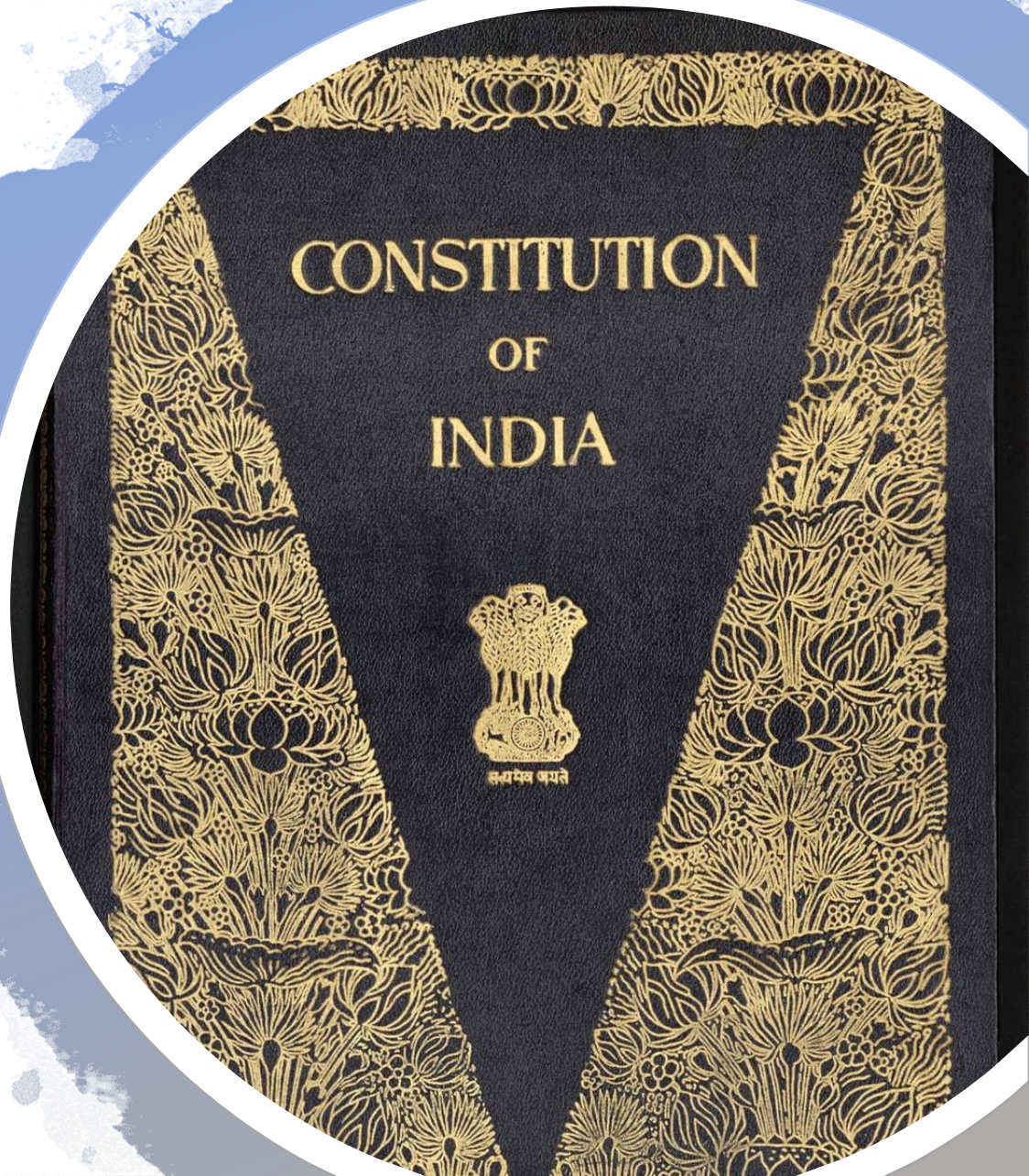


- **Maithili** (/ˈmaɪtɪli/;*Maithilī*) is an Indo-Aryan language native to the Indian subcontinent, mainly spoken in India and Nepal.
- In India, it is spoken in the states of Bihar and Jharkhand and is one of the 22 recognised Indian languages.
- In Nepal, it is spoken in the eastern Terai and is the second most prevalent language of Nepal.
- Tirhuta was formerly the primary script for written Maithili. Less commonly, it was also written in the local variant of Kaithi.Today it is written in the Devanagari script.


NEPAL
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Official status

- In 2003, **Maithili** was included in **the Eighth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution as a recognised Indian language, which allows it to be used in education, government, and other official contexts in India.
- The Maithili language is included as an optional paper in the UPSC Exam.
- In March 2018, Maithili received the second official language status in the Indian state of Jharkhand.



- ***Central Maithili:-***
- The most famous literary figure in Maithili
- is the poet **Vidyapati** (1350–1450), who wrote his poems in the language of the people, i.e., Maithili, at a time when state's official language was Sanskrit and Sanskrit was being used as a literary language. The use of Maithili, instead of Sanskrit, in literature became more common after Vidyapati.



Early Maithili Literature (ca. 700–1350 AD)

- The period was of ballads, songs, and dohas
- . Some important Maithili writers of this era were Jyotirishwar Thakur (1290–1350) whose *Varnartnakar* is the first prose and encyclopedia in northern Indian language.



Middle Maithili Literature (ca. 1350–1830 AD)

- The period was of theatrical writings. Some important Maithili writers of this era were:
- **1.**Vidyapati
- (1350–1450)
- **2.**Srimanta Sankardeva
- (1449–1568)
- **3.**Govindadas
- (late 17th century)

Modern Maithili Literature (1830 AD to date)

- The development of Maithili in the modern era was due to magazines and journals. Some important writers of this era are:
- 1.**Acharya Ramlochan Saran** (1889–1971) 2.**Baldev Mishra** (1890–1975)3.**Krishna Kumar Jha 'Anveshak**", Editor of Maithili Darpan Magazine and author of Mithila Anveshan 4.**Surendra Jha 'Suman'** (1910–2002) represented Maithili in the Sahitya Akademi 5.**Radha Krishna Choudhary** (1921–1985) 6.**Jaykant Mishra** (20 December 1922 – 3 February 2009) represented Maithili in the Sahitya Akademi 7.**Rajkamal Chaudhary** (1929–1967) 8.**Binod Bihari Verma** (1937–2003) 9.**Parichay Das** (1964–till date) 10.**Gajendra Thakur** (1971–till date)



- **Angika literature** (Hindi: अंगिका साहित्य) may be broadly divided into three prominent period - Ancient, Pre-Independence and Modern.
- According to Rahul Sankrityayan - the evidences of oldest form of written literature is available in the Saraha's Angika poetry of **800 A.D.**
- Suman Soorow, Permanand Pandey, Vidyabhushan Venu, Amrendra, Naresh Pandey- 'Chakore', Kundan Amitabh, Abhaykant Choudhary, Ramchandra Choudhary, Shri Umesh Jee are among prominent figures who have contributed lots in Angika Literature.

Western Maithili (Bajjika):-

- The great literary works in **Bajjika** or **Western Maithili**. Some of these are :-
- Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta In Bajjika ~ (श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता)
- Om Shanti (ओम शांति)Poems in Bajjika
- Bajjika Ramayan(बज्जिका रामायण) by:-Dr Abdeshwar Arun,
- Tesri Beriya by :-Sri Sambhu 'AGEHI',
- **Pinjra k Sugva(पिंजरा के सुगवा)** by:-Indira 'BHARTI',
- Madhumas (मधुमास), Madhuvas (मधुवास) (Bajjika-Poems) by:- Shri Ratnanand Jha 'Chhotan'
- Tarhatthi par taregan (तरहात्ती पर तरेगन)
- Phool-paat (फूल-पात)
- Injuri Bhar sinhorwa (इंजुरी भर सिंहोरवा),
- Sanch me Anch ki ? (साँच में आँच कि?)
- Hom Kahan Hati (हम कहां हती?) etc. are the very popular books of Bajjika.



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