

Indian Languages

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Languages in India

1. Indian Language History:

About 80 percent of all Indians, which is about 800 million people speak one of the Indo-Aryan group of languages. Persian and the languages of Afghanistan are close relatives, belonging, like the Indo-Aryan languages, to the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family. Brought into India from the North West during the second millennium B.C., the Indo Aryan tongues spread though out the north, gradually displacing the earlier languages of the area. **Around 18 percent of the Indian population, which is about 180 million people speak Dravidian languages. Most Dravidian speakers reside in south India, where Indo-Aryan influence was less extensive than in the North. The oldest documented Dravidian language is Tamil, with a substantial body of literature.**

2. Hindi and English

The choice of tongue that is known in India is called the "link" language, which has been a controversy since the country's independence. The central issue in the link-language controversy has been and remains whether Hindi should replace English. English is a foreign tongue that has been left by the British Raj. Only a few of the Indian population can speak English fluently. Hindi is spoken today by most of the Indian population, and it continues to spread because it would be more adaptable to the cultural habits of the people.