

G1 - *ANCIENT INDIA* **HISTORY**

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ABOUT ME

- B.E (ECE) from Anna UNIVERSITY
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Later Vedic Age Religion

Key Concepts	Source
▪ <i>Gotra</i>	Atharva Veda
▪ <i>Purusashukta</i> Hymn (Four-fold division of society)	Rig Veda (Tenth <i>Mandala</i>)
▪ First three <i>ashramas</i> (<i>Brahmacharya, Garhasthya, Vanaprastha</i>)	<i>Chhandogya Upanishad</i>
▪ Four <i>ashrams</i> (<i>Brahmacharya, Garhasthya, Vanaprastha, Sannyas</i>)	<i>Jabala Upanishad</i>
▪ <i>Samsara</i> (transmigration of soul)	<i>Brahadarankya Upanishad</i>

Key Concepts	Source
▪ Sabha and Samiti as the twin daughters of Prajapati	Atharva Veda
▪ ' <i>Satyamev Jayate</i> '	<i>Mandukya Upanishad</i>
▪ Doctrine of 'Trimurti'	<i>Maitrayani Upanishad</i>
▪ Mention of the 'Great Flood'	<i>Satpatha Brahamana</i>
▪ Kshatriyas' precedence over Brahmanas	<i>Atreya Brahamana</i>
▪ Mention of the eastern and western seas	<i>Satpatha Brahamana</i>
▪ Origin of the Universe	Rig Veda (Tenth <i>Mandala</i>)

Some Extra Facts...

- Unlike *Shruti* texts (Vedas), *Smriti* (Remembered) texts includes the Puranas, epics such as the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, *Vedanga*, *Nitishastra*, and *Dharamashastra*.
- The Ramayana has many versions. Different versions have different beginnings and endings, such as –
 1. The Paumachariu of Vimalasuri in Prakrit is a Jaina version, in which Ravana is killed by Lakshmana, and not by Rama, as Rama, being a true Jaina, embodies non-violence.
 2. The *Dasharatha Jataka* in Pali (a Buddhist version)
 3. The *Iramavataram* in Tamil (by Kamban)
 4. The *Ramcharitmanas* in Hindi (by Tulsidas)

There are primarily four families of languages spoken in India:

- **Indo-European** (spoken by around 75%): It includes Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Urdu, Gujarati, Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese, Sindhi, Nepali, Kashmiri, etc.
- **Dravidian** (spoken by around 22%): It includes Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Tulu. Largely spoken in South India, except Gondi (Central India), Brahui (Baluchistan, Pakistan), and Malto (Rajmahal Hills, Eastern India).
- **Austro-Asiatic** (spoken by around 1%): It includes Khasi, Santhali, Mundari, Ho, Savara, Kharia, etc. Tibeto-Burmese (spoken by around 1%): It includes Manipuri, Bodo, Tripuri, Garo, Lushai, Sema, Karbi, Ao, Adi, Nissi, etc.

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- Classical Sanskrit refers to the language whose rules were codified by Grammarian *Panini* in his famous volume *Ashtadhyayi*.
 - *Patanjali's Mahabhasya* is another important text of Sanskrit grammar.
 - *Tolkappiyam* is the oldest surviving Tamil grammar.
 - **Among the Dravidian languages, Tamil has the oldest literature followed by Kannada.**
 - Pali and Prakrit both, like Sanskrit, belong to the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family.
 - Oldest surviving Prakrit grammar is *Prakritaprakasha* of Vararuchi.
 - Magathi and Shauraseni are the dialects of Prakrit.

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