

## URDU & HINDI

### 17th century

#### *Urdu & Hindustani*

Hindustani was the language of the Muslim conquerors of Hindustan, and was a form of Hindi with a large admixture of Arabic and Persian words. It was also called *Urdu - zaban-i-urdu*, meaning “language of the camp”, that is, of the Mogul conquerors. It later became a kind of *lingua franca* over all India, varying greatly in its vocabulary according to the locality and local language.

Urdu has since 1947 been distinguished from Hindustani (the *lingua franca*) and designated as the official language of Pakistan.

<i>Urdu</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
begum - a queen, princess, or lady of high rank in Hindustan.	1634	begum
bangla	1676	bungalow
kamar-band	1616	cummerbund
rupiyah - monetary unit of India & Pakistan	1612	rupee
sahib - the original <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> definition is, “A respectful title used by the natives of India in addressing an Englishman or other European (= Sir).”	1696	sahib
tari - from tar, palm-tree.	1609	toddy 1
1 The sap obtained from the wild date, coco-nut, and palmyra, drunk in tropical countries; also, the intoxicating drink produced by fermentation.		
2 A drink of whisky or other spirits with hot water and sugar.	1786	
tam tam - drum	1693	tom-tom

#### *Hindi*

Hindi is the vernacular language of Northern India, spoken in many dialectal forms. The earliest words that have remained reasonably familiar include:

<i>Hindi</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
chint	1614	chintz
chitthi - a letter or note.	1698	chitty
khat	1634	cot (bed)
kauri - a sea shell	1662	cowrie
dungri - originally, a coarse calico	1613	dungaree
ghi - cooking oil	1665	ghee
guru - teacher, priest	1613	guru
1 Jagannath lord of the world - Krishna.	1638	juggernaut
The meaning has subsequently developed:		
2 A large heavy vehicle.	1841	
3 A heavy lorry.	1927	
khichri	1662	kedgeree
maharaja - great king	1698	maharaja
mahaut - elephant-driver	1662	mahout
pandit - a learned man.	1672	pundit
sari	1598	sari

## 18th century

<i>Urdu</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
<i>bangri</i>	1787	bangle
<i>sipahi</i> - Anglo-Indian - an Indian soldier under British discipline.	1717	sepoys

<i>Hindi</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
babu - a Hindu title of respect.	1782	babu
dengi	1794	dinghy
jangal	1776	jungle
lut	1788	loot
swami - master, lord		swami
1 a Hindu idol	1773	
2 a religious teacher	1901	

## 19th C

<i>Urdu</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
charpai - light Indian bedstead	1845	charpoy
gand-khana-originally Anglo-Indian, "a place of public resort at a station, where the needful facilities for athletics and games of sorts are provided."	1861	gymkhana
khaki - 'dusty, dust-coloured'; a fabric of this colour used in the British army for field-uniforms.	1863	khaki
pardah = veil, curtain; the system of the seclusion of Indian women of rank	1800	pardah
paejamah	1800	pyjamas
sitar - musical instrument.	1845	sitar
tandur - oven.	1840	tandoor
yoga - union	1820	yoga

<i>Hindi</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
chapati - a cake of unleavened bread	1810	chapatti
chota - small; chota peg = a small 'peg' of whisky.	1815	chota
chatni	1813	chutney
dakait - armed rober, pirate	1810	dacoit
dhobi - a washerman	1816	dhobi
gari - a cart or carriage	1810	gharry
lathi - a long heavy stick of bamboo, bound with iron.	1850	lathi
Tamil pappadam, contraction from paruppu adam 'lentil cake'.	1820	popadam
pakkai - sure, certain, reliable; cf pukka sahib	1803	pukka
raj - sovereignty, rule; British Raj = British rule in India before 1947.	1859	raj
thag		
1 Thug - one of an association of professional robbers and murderers in India, who strangled their victims.	1810	thug
2 a ruffian	1839	
topi - hat. cf Anglo-Indian sola topi, worn by Europeans against the sun.	1835	topi/topee
sola - an Indian plant; the pith was used in making the topee hats.		

## 20th C

<i>Urdu</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
samosa	1955	samosa

<i>Hindi</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>MnE</i>
biryani - A highly-spiced Indian dish made of meat or vegetables cooked with rice, saffron, and brown lentils	1932	biryani
tikka - pieces of meat or vegetable marinated in spices and cooked on a skewer.	1955	tikka