



# Gujarati Language Manual

“Jya jya vase gujarati, tya tya vase Gujarat ”

(Meaning: Wherever in the world Gujaratis live, there exists a Gujarat)

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## Demographic Information

### U.S and World Wide Population

The Gujarati people live in the northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent, in the state of Gujarat. According to the 2001 census data, the population of the Gujarat State was 50,671,017. Many Gujaratis inhabit the states of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh of India and the Indian capital of New Delhi as well as the former Portuguese-ruled territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Gujarat is a very industrialized state of India.



Above image from: [http://www.sindhtoday.net/imgs/3/Gujarat\\_13561391.jpg](http://www.sindhtoday.net/imgs/3/Gujarat_13561391.jpg)

## **Geographic Distribution**

Gujarati is the official and primary language of Gujarat. Other languages spoken include English, Hindi and other Indic languages. There are approximately 46 million speakers of Gujarati worldwide, making it the 23<sup>rd</sup> most spoken language in the world. About 45.5 million reside in India, 150,000 in Uganda, 250,000 in Tanzania, 50,000 in Kenya and roughly 100,000 in Pakistan. Gujarati speakers also exist in North America and the United Kingdom as well.

According to the U.S Census in 2006, there were 1,417,000 people in the U.S. who spoke Gujarati, Hindi or other Indic languages. Gujaratis comprised 299,000 of these numbers, suggesting approximately 20% of Indian Americans are Gujarati. Early 2010 figures estimate that there are 104,000 people who speak Gujarati in Canada. The majority of those live in the Greater Toronto area, making Toronto the city with the most Gujarati people in North America.

## **Demographic Facts**

- On May 1, 1960, Gujarat was created out of 17 northern districts of the former state of Bombay
- Located on the western coast of India, has the longest coastline of 1,600 Km
- Bounded by the Arabian Sea to the west and south west and by Pakistan in the North
- Population of approximately 50.7 million (five per cent of India) and an area of 1,96,024 Sq. Km. (six per cent of India)
- It has States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh towards the north east and east, Maharashtra and the Union Territories of Daman, Diu and Nagar Haveli, towards the south
- Gandhinagar, the capital city of Gujarat is located close to Amdavad (Ahmedabad), the commercial capital
- Diverse climatic conditions with mild and pleasant winters and hot and dry summers and heavy monsoon
- The state currently has 26 districts (231 talukas, 18,618 villages, 242 towns)

*Taken from: <http://www.gujaratindia.com/state-profile/demography.htm>*

## **History and Religion**

### **History of Gujarat**

Gujarat is a State in northwestern India, on the border with Pakistan and Rajasthan in the north east, Madhya Pradesh in the east, and Maharashtra and the Union territories of Diu, Daman, Dadra and Nagar Haveli in the south. The Arabian Sea borders the state both to the west and the southwest.

The State took its name from the *Gujara*, the land of the *Gujjars*, who ruled the area during the 700's and 800's.

### **Ancient Roots**

The first settlers in the State of Gujarat were Gujjars who happened to be an ethnic group of India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Although their origins remain uncertain, the clan appeared in northern India and in Saurashtra about the time of the Huna invasion. The name of the tribe was 'sanskritized' to 'Gurjara' who followed the main religions of Hinduism, Islam, Sikkism and Christianity.

However, the earliest Archeological traces indicate the Indus Valley Civilization as historical relics with the stone age settlements are found in Gujarat around Sabarmati and Mahi rivers. Its roots are also in the Harappan traces found at Lothal, Rampur, Amri and other places.

Ancient Gujarat was ruled by the Maurya Dynasty. Emperor Chandragupta Maurya conquered a number of states in Gujarat while his grandson, King Ashoka extended his domain in Gujarat. The reigns of the first three Mauryas were significant but with Ashoka's death in 232 B C the Mauryan empire began to crumble, leading to political defragmentation. The Shungas who succeeded the Mauryas tried, unsuccessfully, to uphold the semblance of political unity.

After the fall of the Maurya Empire, the Sakas or Scythians controlled the region from A.D. 130 to 390. Under Rudra-daman, their empire contained Malwa (in Madhya Pradesh), Saurashtra, Kutchh and Rajasthan. During the 300s and 400s, the area formed a part of the Gupta Empire which in turn was succeeded by the Maitraka Dynasty. It was during the rule of Dhruvasena Maitrak that the great Chinese traveler and philosopher Huien Tsang visited India in 640AD.

Between the decline of the Mauryan power and the coming of Saurashtra under the sway of the Samprati Mauryas of Ujjain, there was a Greek incursion into Gujarat led by Demetrius.

Three royal races of Hindus successively ruled over, namely, the Chawura, Solanki', and Baghilah races. The total number of individuals belonging to the tribes who held power amounted to twenty-three, and they retained possession of the country for five hundred and seventy-five years - previous to the period when Gujarat became subject

to the Mohammedans. The Chawura tribe ruled one hundred and ninety-six years after which the power passed into the hands of the Solankhi tribe in the manner described.

It was during the 900s that the Solanki Dynasty came to power. Under the Solanki Dynasty, Gujarat reached to its greatest extent. It is believed that the Gujjars belonged to this Solanki Dynasty because Pratiharas, the Paramaras and the Solankis were imperial Gujjars. Ancient Gujarat's last Hindu rulers were the Solanki clan of Rajputs from 960 AD to 1243 AD. It is also learnt, Karandev of the Vaghela dynasty was the last Hindu ruler of Gujarat and he was overthrown by the superior forces of Allauddin Khilji from Delhi in 1297.

### **Medieval Invasions**

The Muslim rule continued for 400 years. Gujarat's Muslim governor Zafar Khan Muzaffar asserted his independence, and established the first Muslim sultanate in Gujarat. He took advantage of the weak rulers of Delhi prevailing at the time. He declared independence and assumed the title of Muzaffar Shah. His successor, Ahmed I, the first independent Muslim ruler of Gujarat, found Ahmedabad in 1411 on the banks of the Sabarmati river.

Prior to this, Mahmud of Ghazni invaded Gujarat, A.D. 1026. He had vowed to invade India in order to destroy idolatry, kill the kafirs, capture prisoners of war and plunder the vast wealth for which Gujarat was known. Later, Allauddin Khilji invaded Gujarat in 1298 A.D.

Sultanate of Gujarat remained independent until 1576 when the Mughal emperor Akbar conquered it and annexed it to the Mughal Empire. The Mughal Emperor Akbar conquered Malwa and Gujarat in 1570s. The Mughals ruled for about 2 centuries till the streak was terminated by the Marathas in the mid 18th century. Chhatrapati Shivaji, the great Maratha ruler conquered Gujarat with his military skill.

### **Influencing Modernity**

In 1600's, the Dutch, French, English and Portuguese – all established bases along the coast of the region acquiring several enclaves along the Gujarati coast, including Daman and Diu as well as Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

The British East India Company established a factory in Surat in 1614, which formed their first base in India, but it was eclipsed by Bombay after the British acquired it from Portugal in 1668. The Company wrested control of much of Gujarat from the Marathas during the Second Anglo-Maratha War. Many local rulers, notably the Maratha Gaekwads of Baroda (Vadodara), made a separate peace treaty with the British, and acknowledged British sovereignty in return for retaining local self-rule.

Gujarat was placed under the political authority of the Bombay Presidency, with the exception of Baroda state, which had a direct relationship with the Governor-General of India. From 1818 to 1947, most of present-day Gujarat, including Kathiawar, Kutch, and northern and eastern Gujarat were divided into dozens of princely states, but several



districts in central and southern Gujarat, namely Ahmedabad, Broach (Bharuch), Kaira, Panch Mahals, and Surat, were ruled directly by British officials.

A new era began with the Independence movement started by leaders like Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Morarji Desai, K.M. Munshi, Narhari Parikh, Mahadev Desai, Mohanlal Pandya, Bhulabhai Desai and Ravi Shankar Vyas all who hailed from Gujarat. Gujarat became a place for some of the most popular revolts, including the Satyagrahas in Kheda, Bardoli, Borsad and the Salt Satyagraha.

### **Mahagujarat Movement**

After the Independence, in 1948, a Mahagujarat conference took place to integrate the entire Gujarati speaking population under one administrative body and on May 1, 1960, the Bombay State split into the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat. The term 'Mahagujarat' encompassed the whole Gujarati speaking area including Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch. For the first time after the Sultanate, Gujarat was once again autonomous.

### **Post Independence and Politics**

After gaining independence in 1947, the Indian National Congress party (INC) ruled the Bombay state (which included present-day Gujarat and Maharashtra). Congress continued to govern Gujarat after the state's creation in 1960. During and after India's State of Emergency of 1975-1977, public support for the Congress Party eroded, but Congress continued to hold government until 1995.

Gujarat has had 14 different Chief Ministers since its formation in 1960. Dr. Jivraj Narayan Mehta 1 May 1960 - 19 September 1963 of Indian National Congress was the first Chief Minister. In the 1995 Assembly Polls, the Congress lost to the BJP and Keshubhai Patel came to power.

In 2001, following the loss of 2 assembly seats in by-elections, Keshubhai Patel resigned and yielded power to the present Chief Minister Narendra Modi. The BJP retained a majority in the 2002 election, and Narendra Modi has since served as Chief Minister of the state since 7 October 2001 up to present. On 1st June, 2007, Narendra Modi became the longest serving Chief Minister of Gujarat.

*Taken from: <http://www.gujaratindia.com/about-gujarat/history-1.htm>*

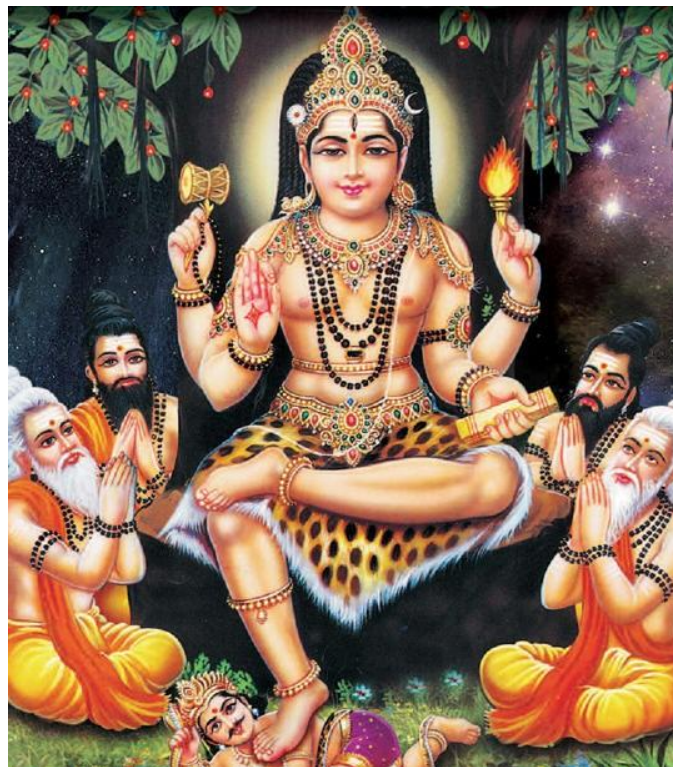
## Ethnicity and Religion

Ethnically there are four groups of people who came to inhabit this land at different points of time and now form the majority here. These are Jats, Ahi, Raris and Meval.

The religion of the majority of its residents is Hinduism, in addition to significant percentages following Islam, Jainism, Zoroastrianism and Christianity. 71% of Hindus in Gujarat speak Gujarati while the other 29% speak Hindi. Almost 88% of the Muslims speak Gujarati while the other 12% speak Urdu. Almost all of the Jains speak Gujarati.

*Taken from:*  
[www.gujarat.com](http://www.gujarat.com)

*Taken from:*  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati\\_people#Demographics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati_people#Demographics)



*Above image from:*  
<http://my.opera.com/Tamil/albums/showpic.dml?album=196902&picture=8812344>

## Culture

### Food

Most of the people in Gujarat are strict vegetarians including rice, cooked vegetables and bread. People from different areas of the country may use different ingredients for example; people from north Gujarati use dry red chili powder, whereas people from south Gujarati use green chili and coriander in their cooking. Some Gujarati families avoid using garlic and onions in their cooking.

Majority of the Gujaratis are Vegetarian. A traditional 'Gujarati Thali' consisting of dal (lentils), roti, rice and vegetables apart from salads, farsan and sweet dish followed by chaas, forms the morning meal. Evening food consist of 'bhakri-shak' or khichdi kadhi. Mainly, the diet of the people of Gujarat consists of cereals, pulses, green vegetables, fruits, milk, ghee, butter-milk, etc. A variety of Cuisine sub-ordinates like pickles, chutney, papad, yoghurt, etc serve as fillings on main menu. A variety of dishes are prepared by Gujarati women who also add spice to kitchen with eateries from other regions like the South Indian food, Continental, Chinese cuisines.

*Taken from:*

*[http://www.gujarati.com/Gujarati\\_people\\_of\\_the\\_State\\_of\\_Gujarat.asp](http://www.gujarati.com/Gujarati_people_of_the_State_of_Gujarat.asp)*

*Taken from: <http://www.gujaratindia.com/about-gujarat/culture.htm>*



Gujarati Kaddhi

*Above images from <http://culinary-tours.blogspot.com/2008/12/cuisines-of-gujarat.html> and <http://funnfud.blogspot.com/2008/01/vaghareli-khichdi-and-gujarati-kadhhi.html>*

## Dress

The younger generation the western attire is becoming more common, although traditional attire is still worn. Women usually hang several keys around their waist and different types of jewelry such as necklace, earrings, bangles, rings and “mangalsutra” (a type of necklace symbolizing Christian marriage in India). Hindu women may wear a “sindor” which is a forehead decoration. Married women wear a red powder called a “bindi” or “tiki” which the priest traditionally asks the groom to place the first “bindi” during the wedding ceremony.

*Taken from*  
[http://www.gujarati.com/Dress\\_and\\_jewellery\\_of\\_the\\_Gujarati.asp](http://www.gujarati.com/Dress_and_jewellery_of_the_Gujarati.asp)

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*Above pictures from:*  
[http://www.pramanik.in/images/Indian%20Women%27s%20Designer%20wears/Traditional\\_Embroidered\\_Wedding\\_Lehenga\\_Cholis.jpg](http://www.pramanik.in/images/Indian%20Women%27s%20Designer%20wears/Traditional_Embroidered_Wedding_Lehenga_Cholis.jpg) and <http://www.sights-and-culture.com/India/India-marriage-p5.html>

## **Music**

Gujarati has dynamic traditions of classical and folk music. It is known for having produced their own folk instruments and for its vast contributions to classical and folk music. The different types of folk songs in Gujarati are lullabies, nuptial songs, festive songs and Rannade songs. A religious traditional day celebrated in Gujarati is the Navratri Festival which is composed of 'Nine days of Singing and Dancing' enjoyed by all communities, all age groups and at all Gujarat cities and towns. This festival is comprised of a blend of music and dance, traditional attire, fasting for nine days and dancing in various forms.

*Taken from <http://www.gujaratindia.com/about-gujarat/music.htm>*



*Above image from [www.hindustanlink.com/festival/n...atri.htm](http://www.hindustanlink.com/festival/n...atri.htm)*

## **Traditions**

Hinduism is the religion most residents of Gujarati follow however; Jainism and Buddhism are also followed. Gujarati is mainly influenced by enculturation passing on traditions from one generation to the next. One example of this is the aspect of joining hands to greet or bow down which comes through age influences as offering reverence. The majority of the population who are Hindus greet each other by saying "Namaste" or "Namaste" which means "Greetings to you. Muslims greet by saying "Salaam" or "Salaam alaikum" which means "Peace be with you."

*Taken from <http://www.gujaratindia.com/about-gujarat/culture.htm#cost>*

*Taken from <http://www.everyculture.com/wc/Germany-to-Jamaica/Gujaratis.html>*

## **Economy**

### **Subsistence and Commercial Activities .**

Despite rapid industrial development, agriculture occupies a prominent place in the economy of the state. It contributes an average of 35 to 40 percent of the state's domestic products. Sixty-two percent of the workers engaged in agriculture are either cultivators or laborers. Although agriculture is not fully mechanized, use of tractors has increased considerably in recent years. The major food crops are *bajri*, *jowar*, rice, and wheat. Cotton, groundnut, tobacco, and sugarcane are major commercial crops: they occupy about 40 percent of the total cultivated area of the state. Cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, chickens, horses, camels, monkeys, donkeys, and pigs are the main Domestic animals. Bullocks are used for agriculture, cows and buffalo for milk. A cooperative dairy industry has developed.

### **Industrial Arts.**

Artisans in rural areas are engaged in Pottery, silver- and brass-ornament making, embroidery, handloom construction and furniture making. Despite government support, these crafts are rapidly disappearing. Gujarat is one of the most highly industrialized states in India. The major industries are textiles, plastics, chemicals, and engineering. In terms of income generated from manufacturing, Gujarat ranks second in the country.

### **Trade.**

Trade is a primary occupation of Gujaratis. The Hindu and Jain Banias are the trading castes. In this century the Patidars have emerged as entrepreneurs. In addition, the Parsis and Muslim Bohras are also traders. Gujarat has been well connected by trade routes within the continent and also with other countries. Historically, the Gujaratis possessed a remarkable spirit of enterprise that led them in search of wealth to Java and Cambodia during the sixth and seventh centuries A . D . and to Siam, China, Sri Lanka, and Japan at about the end of the seventh century A . D . Some Gujaratis emigrated to Africa in the last century, and from there they have moved to Europe and the United States.

### **Division of Labor.**

Except among the tribals, work is clearly divided between men and women. Gujaratis continue to believe that "a woman's place is in the home": a woman's main tasks are cooking, washing, other household work, and child rearing. However, among the poor, women also participate in economic activities, engaging in cultivation and agricultural labor.

*Taken from: <http://www.everyculture.com/South-Asia/Gujarati-Economy.html>*

## **Linguistic Community**

### **History and Dialects of the Language**

Gujarati is a modern Indo-Aryan language evolved from Sanskrit. Gujarati, in contrast with most other Indian languages, is considered to be a relatively young language, with its origins traced back to around the 12th century AD.

The history of Gujarati can be divided into three historical stages as all other Indo-Aryan Languages have been divided; which are as follows.

- 1) The old (Apabhramsa) period (10th-14th cent.)
- 2) The middle period (15th-17th cent.)
- 3) Modern period (after 17th cent.)

#### **1) The old (Apabhramsa) period (10th-14th cent.):**

In this period, the original form of Gujarati was spoken by the native Gurjars in Northern Gujarat and Western Rajasthan. It had all the characteristics of modern Gujarati like direct/oblique noun forms, postpositions and auxiliary verbs. In this period, the Parsis who earlier had migrated on Gujarat shores from Middle East, started learning Sanskrit, and translated their religious text into Sanskrit. Parsis have played a pivotal role in the significant growth and development of Gujarati literature. Later Parsis took up the Persian as the Muslims had control of the Gujarat. This era also saw the emergence of the Narasimha Mehta, who is traditionally considered as the Father of the Modern Gujarati Poetry. Parsis still speak and write Gujarati, but they have created their own impression on the Gujarati language with their unique culture and have almost created a new dialect.

#### **2) The middle period (15th-17th cent.):**

In this period, Persian and Urdu dominated as it had achieved the status of the Court Language and therefore it had a great influence on Gujarati. The major development was split off from traditional Rajasthani which were seen in phonological changes. Parsis adopted the local Gujarati spoken by locals and also used words from Persians, Pahlavi as well as Zand.

#### **3) Modern period (after 17th cent.):**

In this period British were spreading and establishing themselves in India. This started the westernization of not only Gujarati but also other local languages. The major impact was British romanticism and styles were creeping into the literature. Even Parsis had readily taken up English. The modern Gujarati, which has consonant final words, was developed in this period. By the end of 19th Century, there were quite a few milestones for the Gujarati language which are states below.

- 1840s, personal diary composition; Nityanonndh, Durgaram Mahetaji.
- 1851, first essay; Narmada Shankar Lalshankar Dave.
- 1866, first novel; Nandashankar Mehta.
- 1866, first autobiography; Narmada Shankar Lalshankar Dave.

*Taken from: <http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/language/about/gujarati.html>*

The history of the language can be traced back to 12th c. CE. A formal grammar of the precursor of this language was written by Jain monk and eminent scholar Hemachandra-charya in the reign of Rajput king Siddharaj Jayasinh of Patan. This was called Apabhramsa grammar, signifying a language which is a corrupted form of languages like Sanskrit and Ardha-magadhi.

Earliest literature in the language survives in oral tradition and is traced to two stalwarts, the Krishna devotee and great egalitarian Narasinh Mehta (later a source of inspiration to Mahatma Gandhi) dated to be in the 17th century. The story of Narsinh Mehta himself was composed as a long narrative ballad by Premananda, accorded the title "maha-kavi" or great poet by modern historians of the language. His date is perhaps late 17th century. Other than this a large number of poets flourished during what is now characterized as the bhakti or devotional movement in Hinduism, a movement of the masses to liberate the religion from entrenched priesthood.

Premananda was a "vyakhyan-kar", a traveling storyteller, who narrated his subject in song form and then perhaps elaborated on the lines in prose. His style was so fluent that the long poems running into hundreds of lines were memorised by the people and are still sung during the morning routines. In this sense the oral tradition of the much more ancient Vedas was clearly continuing in India till late. Premananda's famous poetry-stories deal with epic themes couched in stories of mythical kings, and the puranas. He also wrote a drama based on Narasinh Mehta's life capturing his simplicity and his disregard for worldly divisions of caste and class.

The Gujarati spoken today takes considerable vocabulary from Persian due to the more than five centuries of the rule of Sultan kings who were Muslim. These words occur mostly in reference to worldly and secular matters. The other elements of the language however draw quite a lot on native tribes of the specific region. Modern exploration into Gujarat and its language is credited to British administrator Forbes. During the nineteenth century at a time when the British rule was more consolidatory and progressive this gentleman explored much of the previous thousand years of the history of the land and compiled a large number of manuscripts. The learned body devoted to Gujarati language is named after him, Farbas Gujarati Sabha with headquarters in Mumbai.

*Taken from: <http://www.sspgm.net/gujaratorigin.html>*



## Dialects

As with most languages in India, the language takes on a different form every 50 kilometers. There are regional dialects which differ in some minor, slightly different from original language. Some of them are listed below along with subdivisions.

- Standard Gujarati - Saurashtra Standard, Nagari, Bombay Gujarati, Patnuli
- Gamadia – Gramya, Surati, Anawla, Brathela, Eastern Broach Gujarati, Charotari, Patidari, Vadodari, Ahmedabad Gamadia, Patani
- Parsi
- Kathiyawadi – Jhalawadi, Sorathi, Holadi, Gohilwadi, Bhavnagari
- Kharwa
- Kakari
- Tarimuki - Ghisadi

*Taken from:*

*<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/language/about/gujarati.htm>*

From W. Gragham in 2006, it is stated that Gujarati spoken along the Baroda-Ahmedabad corridor is regarded as the standard/prestige dialect. Other dialects are

- Surati (southern Gujarat)
- Carotari (Charotari; central Gujarat)
- Kathiawri (Saurashtra)
- Patani (northern Gujarat).

Pakistani Gujarati is probably a Patani subdialect, and code switching is waning as the younger generation shifts to Urdu and provincial languages. Muslim speakers there and elsewhere obviously adopt Perso-Arabic lexicons – its largest word stock after Sanskrit – especially in religiocultural discourse. Parsi Gujarati, an ethnolect of the subcontinent's Zoroastrians is, however, readily intelligible. East African Gujarati now contains Swahili loanwords. Kacchi (Kachchi) is semantically intermediate between Gujarati and Sindhi and is also influenced by Marwari.

## Helpful Reminders

### DO

- Use bits of the language to connect with individuals from that country. (*i.e* *Namastay*- a local form of greeting).
- Bring a small box of sweets when invited to a meal.
- If you are female and are being introduced to a male: it is up to you - the female - to take the initiative for a handshake. The rule of thumb is the female extends her hand first and the male reciprocates.

### DON'T

- If you are male introduced to a female, don't take the initiative of offering a handshake. If the female extends her hand, you must reciprocate, but don't be the first to extend your hand.
- Show amusement at the different Indian accents and choice of words. This does not take away from the fact that many Indians speak and write better English than many native English speakers.

*Taken from: <http://www.indiaonestop.com/dosanddonts.htm>*

### Appearance

- Men are generally expected to wear a suit and tie for business, although the jacket may be removed in the summer. Women should wear conservative dresses or pantsuits.
- When dressing casual, short-sleeved shirts and long pants are preferred for men; shorts are acceptable only when exercising. Women must keep their upper arms, chest, back, and legs covered at all times. Women should wear long pants when exercising.
- The use of leather products including belts or handbags may be considered offensive, especially in temples. Hindus revere cows and do not use leather products.

*Taken from: <http://www.cyborlink.com/besite/india.htm>*

## Language Components

### Phonology

The Gujarati phoneme inventory consists of eight vowels and twenty-four consonants, depending on the analysis. In addition, two diphthongs are indicated. As in many Indic languages, a number of retroflex articulations are employed. As a result, Gujarati has fairly extensive stop and nasal series. Five stop consonants are attested and there are four varieties of nasal articulations.

*Taken from: <http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=85&menu=004>*

Vowel	Phonetic Description	Letter/s
i	close, front	ઃ, ઃ
u	close, back	w, W
e	close-mid, front	Ae
o	close-mid, back	Ao
E	open-mid, front	Ae
•	open-mid, back	Ao
«	central (between close-mid and open-mid)	A
a	open, front	Aa

Diphthong	Phonetic Description	Letter/s
«i	combination of « and i	AE
«u	combination of « and u	AO

*Taken from <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/phoneticpractice.htm>*

Consonants	Phonetic Description	Gujarati Letter/s
k	voiceless, velar, stop	k
kH	voiceless, aspirated, velar, stop	`
g	voiced, velar, stop	g
gH	voiced, aspirated, velar, stop	3
c	voiceless, palatal, stop	c
cH	voiceless, aspirated, palatal, stop	2
j	voiced, palatal, stop	j
jH	voiced, aspirated, palatal, stop	z
ÿ	voiceless, retroflex, stop	4
ÿH	voiceless, aspirated, retroflex, stop	5
ê	voiced, retroflex, stop	6
êH	voiced, aspirated, retroflex, stop	7
÷	palatal, nasal	8
t	voiceless, dental, stop	t
tH	voiceless, aspirated, dental, stop	9
d	voiced, dental, stop	d
dH	voiced, aspirated, dental, stop	0
n	dental, nasal	n
p	voiceless, bilabial, stop	p
pH	voiceless, aspirated, bilabial, stop	f
b	voiced, bilabial, stop	b
bH	voiced, aspirated, bilabial, stop	-
m	bilabial, nasal	m
y	palatal, semivowel	y
r	flap, alveolar	r
l	lateral, alveolar	l
w	labial, semivowel	v
s	voiceless, fricative, alveolar	s
S	voiced, fricative, alveolar	=, q
h	voiceless, fricative, glottal	h
ñ	lateral, retroflex	X

*Taken from <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/phoneticpractice.htm>*

## **Morphology**

Gujarati is an agglutinative language. That is to say, grammatical information is encoded by way of affixation (largely suffixation), rather than via independent freestanding morphemes.

Nouns inflect for number (singular, plural), gender (masculine, feminine, neuter), and declension class (absolute, oblique). The absolute form of a noun is its default or uninflected form. This form is used as the object of the verb, typically when inanimate, as well as in measure or temporal (point of time) constructions.

There are seven oblique forms in Gujarati, corresponding more or less to the case forms: agentive/nominative, accusative-dative, instrumental, ablative, genitive, locative, and vocative. All cases except for the vocative are distinguished by means of postpositions. The vocative form takes no postposition, but may be preceded by a vocative particle or term of address.

Verbs inflect for tense, aspect (perfective, imperfective), mood (indicative, imperative, subjunctive, conditional), voice (active, passive), person, number, and gender (the latter in aspectual forms only). In this way, Gujarati verbs agree with their subjects, as is the case with other Indic languages.

Adjectives inflect for gender, number, and case, and thus agree with the nouns they modify. Adverbs do not inflect. With respect to morphology, Gujarati and Punjabi are nearly identical.

*Taken from: <http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=85&menu=004>*

## **Syntax**

Gujarati word order structure is SOV. There are three genders, adjectives precede nouns, and direct objects come before verbs. There are no definite or indefinite articles. Postpositions are attested, but prepositions are not. With respect to the structure of the noun phrase, adjectives, non-adjectival modifiers, and relative clauses precede the nouns they modify. Inside the verb phrase, indirect objects precede direct objects and negative, modal-auxiliary, and interrogative elements precede the main verb. Adverbs typically follow the subject and precede the object(s) of the verb. Embedded clauses follow their verbal complements.

Word order patterns include:

- Adjective + Noun
- Verb + auxiliary
- Subject + Predicate

The syllable structure of the language is CCVCC. Within a syllable, consonant clusters are tolerated, but typically occur in onset position (i.e. before the syllable's vowel). Within the word, consonant clusters in initial and medial positions occur freely. Word-

final clusters in the language, however, are greatly restricted: only [h], [r], [k], and nasal/semivowel clusters are tolerated in this position. Sequences of two to three vowel sequences are attested, but usually occur across morpheme boundaries. Stress typically falls on the penultimate syllable of a word, however, if the penultimate vowel in a word with more than two syllables is schwa, stress falls on the preceding syllable.

*Taken from: <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/wordorder.htm>*

*Taken from: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati\\_language#Grammar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati_language#Grammar)*

*Taken from: <http://www.Imp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=85&menu=004>*

## **Pragmatics**

Limited resources are available with this specific linguistic community. This is not exclusively to pragmatic characteristics of the Gujarati language. The following should be considered when interacting in a formal or clinic setting.

## **Communication**

- The word "no" has harsh implications in India. Evasive refusals are more common, and are considered more polite. Never directly refuse an invitation, a vague "I'll try" is an acceptable refusal.
- Do not thank your hosts at the end of a meal. "Thank you" is considered a form of payment and therefore insulting.
- Titles are very important. Always use professional titles.

## **Behaviors**

- The head is considered the seat of the soul. Never touch someone else's head, not even to pat the hair of a child.
- Beckoning someone with the palm up and wagging one finger can be construed as an insult. Standing with your hands on your hips will be interpreted as an angry, aggressive posture.
- Whistling is impolite and winking may be interpreted as either an insult or a sexual proposition.
- Never point your feet at a person. Feet are considered unclean. If your shoes or feet touch another person, apologize.

- Gifts are not opened in the presence of the giver. If you receive a wrapped gift, set it aside until the giver leaves.
- Business lunches are preferred to dinners. Hindus do not eat beef and Muslims do not eat pork.

*Taken from: <http://www.cyborlink.com/besite/india.htm>*

## **Common errors in Gujarati**

Due to the limited amount of research in this area, little to no information is available.

## **Test Assessments**

Language Proficiency Test (LPT)  
Target Language Proficiency-Gujarati

## **Global Institutions specialized in Gujarati**

Ali Yavar Jung National Institute For The Hearing Handicapped  
Kishen Chand Marg, Bhandra (West), Mumbai 400050

Topiwala National Medical College and Nair Hospital

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing:  
<http://www.aiishmysore.com/>

## **Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists specialized in Gujarati**

### **TEXAS**

#### **Upadhyay, Shweta M.S**

13632 Campesina Dr

Austin, TX 78727

(512) 246-7592

*Email:* shwetsin@yahoo.com

*Facility Type:* Speech/Hearing Center or Clinic

#### **Gopal, Kamakshi V., Ph.D.**

907 West Sycamore Street

Denton, Texas 76203

(940) 565-7432

*E-mail:* [gopal@unt.edu](mailto:gopal@unt.edu)

*Facility Type:* University of North Texas Speech and Hearing Center

### **CALIFORNIA**

#### **Padmanabhan, Sandhya M.S**

2683 Presidio Dr

Brentwood, CA 94513

925-470-6948

*Email:* ssandhya\_10@hotmail.com

*Facility Type:* SLP or AUD Office

### **NEW YORK**

#### **International Speech & Language, Inc.**

766 55th Street

Brooklyn, NY 11220

718-436-6834

*Email:* intltspeech1@verizon.net

*Director:* Joyce Lew-Ng

*Facility Type:* Speech/Hearing Center or clinic



## **Web Resources**

### **About Gujarati**

<http://www.gujaratindia.com/about-gujarat/music.htm>

### **Information about Gujarati**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati\\_language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarati_language)

### **Gujarati Video Online**

<http://www.gujarativideo.com/>

### **Gujarati Accent Reduction Tutoring Academy**

<http://www.relaxandspeak.com/>

### **Universities and Colleges offering courses in Speech and Language therapy**

<http://www.indiaeduinfo.co.in/careers/speech.htm>

### **Gujarati-English Dictionary**

<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/guj-engdictionary.pdf>

### **Online Gujarati Lessons**

<http://utopianvision.co.uk/gujarati/>

<http://www.ukindia.com/zguj1.htm>

### **Online Gujarati lexicon - dictionary, thesaurus, idioms, spellchecker**

<http://www.gujaratilexicon.com>

### **Gujarati Vowel and Consonant Sounds**

<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/gujaratisounboard.html>

### **Free Gujarati fonts**

[http://www.wazu.jp/gallery/Fonts\\_Gujarati.html](http://www.wazu.jp/gallery/Fonts_Gujarati.html)

<http://www.fototext.com/download.htm>

### **Gujarati Language and Literature**

<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/gujarati/>

### **Online Gujarati newspapers and magazines**

<http://www.gujaratsamachar.com>

<http://www.sambhaav.com>

### **Send email in Gujarati**

<http://utopianvision.co.uk/services/gujaratimessage/>

## **Research Articles**

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