

Maithili Literature — Optional Syllabus

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination

The Maithili language and its literature — history, criticism and prescribed texts.

Paper I	250 marks	3 hours
Paper II	250 marks	3 hours
Optional total	500 marks	Counts toward the Mains merit

Paper I syllabus 250 marks · 3 hours

HISTORY OF MAITHILI LANGUAGE AND ITS LITERATURE (Answers must be written in Maithili)

PART A

- 1. Place of Maithili in Indo-European Language family.
- 2. Origin and development of Maithili language. (Sanskrit, Prakrit, Avhatt, Maithili)
- 3. Periodic division of Maithili Language. (Beginning, Middle era, Modern era).
- 4. Maithili and its different dialects.
- 5. Relationship between Maithili and other Eastern languages (Bengali, Asamese, Oriya)
- 6. Origin and Development of Tirhuta Script.
- 7. Pronouns and Verbs in Maithili Language.

PART B

- 1. Background of Maithili Literature (Religious, Economic, Social, Cultural).
- 2. Periodic division of Maithili literature.
- 3. Pre-Vidyapati Literature.
- 4. Vidyapati and his tradition.
- 5. Medieval Maithili Drama (Kirtaniya Natak, Ankia Nat, Maithili dramas written in Nepal).
- 6. Maithili Folk Literature (Folk Tales, Folk Drama, Folk Stories, Folk Songs).
- 8. Development of Maithili Magazines and Journals.

PART B: 7. Development of different literary forms in modern era

- (a) Prabandh-kavya
- (b) Muktak-kavya
- (c) Novel
- (d) Short Story
- (e) Drama
- (f) Essay
- (g) Criticism

- (h) Memoirs
- (i) Translation

Paper II syllabus 250 marks · 3 hours

(Answers must be written in Maithili) The paper will require first-hand reading of the prescribed texts and will test the critical ability of the candidates.

PART A

- 1. Vidyapati Geet-Shati—Publisher : Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi (Lyrics— 1 to 50)
- 2. Govind Das Bhajanavali—Publisher : Maithili Academy, Patna (Lyrics— 1 to 25)
- 3. Krishnajanm—Manbodh
- 4. Mithilabhasha Ramayana—Chanda Jha (only Sunder-Kand)
- 5. Rameshwar Charit Mithila Ramayan—Lal Das (only Bal-kand)
- 6. Keechak-Vadh—Tantra Nath Jha.
- 7. Datta-Vati—Surendra Jah 'Suman' (only 1st and 2nd Cantos).
- 8. Chitra-Yatri
- 10. Varna Ratnakar—Jyotirishwar (only 2nd Kallol)
- 11. Khattar Kakak Tarang—Hari Mohan Jha
- 12. Lorik—Vijaya Manipadma
- 13. Prithvi Putra—Lalit
- 14. Bhaphait Chahak Jinagi—Sudhanshu 'Shekhar' Choudhary
- 15. Kriti Rajkamlak—Publisher: Maithili Academy, Patna (First Ten Stories only)
- 16. Katha-Sangrah—Publisher: Maithili Academy, Patna.

PART A: 9. Samakaleen Maithili Kavita—Publisher: Sahitaya Akademi, New Delhi.

- PART-B

Syllabus as per the official UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination notification. Study notes for this optional are being added on RaahUPSC — raahupsc.com.