

Knowledge Roots

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Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh (UP) is a large and populous state located in the northern part of India. It is the most populous state in the country and plays a crucial role in Indian politics, culture, and history. The history of Uttar Pradesh is rich and diverse, with the region being a witness to the rise and fall of various empires, the birth of religions, and significant political and cultural developments. Uttar Pradesh was established in 1950 after India had become a republic.



Geography

Uttar Pradesh is situated in the northern part of India. It shares the borders with several Indian states, including Uttarakhand and

Himachal Pradesh on the north west, Haryana and Delhi on the west, Rajasthan on the south west, Madhya Pradesh on the south, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand on south east and Bihar on the east.

The total area of the state is 2,40,928 square kilometers.

Uttar Pradesh, primarily known for its vast Gangetic plains. It also has some hilly regions in the northern and eastern parts of the state. These hills are part of the outer ranges of the Himalayas.

Rivers

The Ganges is the major river flowing through the state, providing crucial water resources for agriculture and other activities.

Other significant rivers include the Yamuna, Ghaghara, Saryu, and Betwa.

Climate

Uttar Pradesh experiences a diverse climate, with variations across different regions of the state. The climate is generally characterized by three distinct seasons: summer, monsoon, and winter.

Summers in Uttar Pradesh are hot, with temperatures often soaring above 40 degrees with dry and hot winds, known as "loo".

Uttar Pradesh State's Symbols

State Tree

Ashoka also known as *Saraca asoca* is the state tree of Uttar Pradesh.



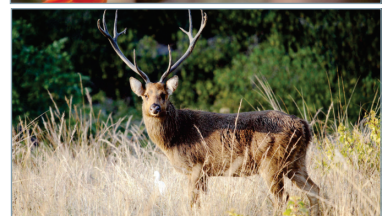
State Flower

Palash is the state flower of Uttar Pradesh.



State Animal

Swamp deer or **Barasingha** is the state animal of Uttar Pradesh.



State Bird

Sarus crane is the state bird of Uttar Pradesh.



Natural Resources

Uttar Pradesh is rich in agricultural resources, with the fertile Gangetic plains supporting the cultivation of crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, and pulses.

The state has mineral resources, including coal, limestone, and dolomite.

Delicacies of Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh, is known for its rich and diverse culinary traditions. The state offers a wide variety of mouth-watering delicacies that cater to different tastes and preferences.

1. **Tunday Kababi** at lucknow is famous for its kebabs, especially the Galouti Kebab. These kebabs are known for their melt-in-the-mouth texture and aromatic spices.
2. **Awadhi Biryani** is a flavorful and aromatic biryani prepared with long-grain basmati rice, meat (usually mutton or chicken), and a blend of spices.
3. **Kachori Sabzi** is a deep-fried snack with a crispy crust and a flavorful filling. It is often served with a spicy potato curry known as sabzi.
4. **Tehri** is a famous traditional vegetarian dish of Uttar Pradesh and also known as vegetable Pulao. Made up of using supreme quality of basmati rice, it is cooked with varieties of vegetables and different spices.
5. The chaat dishes of UP consists of variety of flavours, with various toppings and spices. Some of the popular street food dishes are **Samosa Chaat, Aloo Tikki Chaat, Matar Chaat, Tamatar**



Chaat and **Basket Chaat**.

6. **Kulcha-Nihari** is a soft and fluffy paratha that is served alongside a rich meat gravy, normally mutton or chicken.
7. **Petha** is a translucent candy made from ash gourd (winter melon). It comes in various flavors, with the most popular being plain, kesar and paan.
8. **Pedha** is a sweet made from mawa, and has a subtle cardamom or saffron flavour. It is soft, delicious and a delight to eat.
9. Varanasi is known for its special variety of paan, a betel leaf preparation. **Banarasi Paan** often includes a variety of ingredients like betel nuts, catechu, slaked lime, and various flavorings.



Dialects of Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh is a diverse state with various dialects spoken across different regions. The primary language of the state is Hindi, but there are several dialects and variations within Hindi spoken by different communities.

1. **Braj Bhasha** is descended from Shauraseni Prakrit. It is spoken in the region around Mathura, Agra, Hathras, Aligarh, etc.
2. **Awadhi** is spoken in the Awadh region, which includes cities like Lucknow, and Ayodhya.
3. **Bagheli** is spoken in the southwestern part of the state, particularly in districts like Jhansi, Chitrakoot, and Banda.
4. **Kannauji** is spoken in the Kannauj district and surrounding areas. It is considered a transitional dialect between Eastern and Western Hindi.

Musical instruments used in Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh has a rich musical heritage, and has been a significant centre for the development and promotion of classical music traditions.

- ❖ **Tabla** is one of the most popular percussion instruments in North Indian classical music. It consists of two hand-played drums, the smaller drum called the "dayan" and the larger drum called the "bayan".



- ❖ **Sitar** is a stringed instrument with a long neck and a resonating gourd at the base. It is widely associated with Indian classical music and is often used in Hindustani classical performances.



- ❖ **Sarangi** is a classical bowed string instrument. It is used to evoke emotive and soulful melodies and is often played in classical and Sufi music.



- ❖ The **Sarod** is another stringed instrument commonly used in classical music. It has a shorter neck than the sitar and lacks frets.



- ❖ **Pakhawaj** is a barrel-shaped, double-headed drum used in North Indian classical music, especially in the accompaniment of dhrupad singing.



- ❖ **Harmonium** is a popular keyboard instrument used in various musical genres, including classical, devotional, and folk music.



- ❖ **Dholak** is a double-headed hand drum often used in folk and traditional music. It is played with hands and fingers and is known for its rhythmic versatility.



- ❖ **Shehnai** is a traditional wind instrument with a double reed. The shehnai produces a distinctive, melodious sound and is associated with auspicious occasions.



Crops Grown in Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh, is one of the most agriculturally productive states in India, cultivates a wide variety of crops due to its diverse agro-climatic zones. The state's fertile plains and the presence of the Ganges and Yamuna rivers contribute to its agricultural richness.

Wheat is a staple food crop in Uttar Pradesh, and the state is a major contributor to India's wheat production. The Rabi season witnesses extensive wheat cultivation, primarily in the western and central regions.



Uttar Pradesh is a significant producer of **rice**, especially in the eastern and central parts of the state. Varieties like Basmati rice are famous globally, and the state contributes significantly to India's overall rice production

Uttar Pradesh is the leading **sugarcane** producing state in India. The fertile Gangetic plains are well-suited for sugarcane cultivation, and the state has numerous sugar mills processing the sugarcane into sugar and other by-products.



The state is a major producer of **potatoes** with cultivation taking place in various districts. Potatoes from Uttar Pradesh are widely used for consumption as well as for processing into snacks and other food products.

Barley is cultivated in some regions, primarily during the Rabi season. It is used for both animal feed and human consumption.



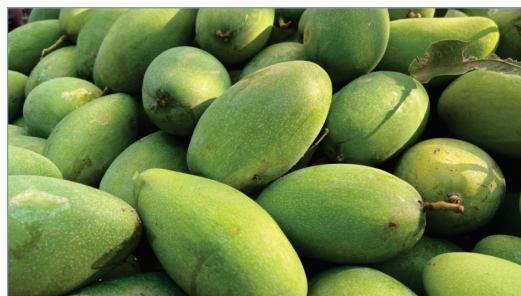
Jute cultivation takes place in the northern parts of the state, especially in districts like Gorakhpur. Jute is used in the production of sacks, bags, and other textiles.



Oilseeds like mustard and soybeans are grown in various parts of the state. Mustard cultivation, in particular, is prevalent during the Rabi season.



Uttar Pradesh is known for its diverse fruit production. Mangoes, guavas, bananas, citrus fruits, and papayas are some of the fruits grown in the state. **Mangoes** from the Malihabad region are particularly renowned.



Pulses such as Arhar, chickpeas are cultivated in Uttar Pradesh. These crops contribute to the protein requirements of the population.



Dresses of Uttar Pradesh

The traditional dresses of Uttar Pradesh reflect the rich cultural and historical heritage of the state.

1. **Saree** is a traditional attire worn by women across Uttar Pradesh. The style and fabric of sarees may vary. In regions like Varanasi, Banarasi sarees are particularly famous for their intricate silk weaving and gold or silver zari work.
2. **Salwar kameez** is a popular and comfortable traditional outfit for women in Uttar Pradesh. It consists of loose-fitting trousers (salwar), a tunic (kameez), and a matching or contrasting dupatta.
3. **Lehenga choli** is a traditional dress often worn during festivals and special occasions. It comprises a flared skirt (lehenga), a fitted blouse (choli), and a dupatta.
4. The **Anarkali suit** features a long, flowy kurta with a fitted bodice and flared silhouette. It is often paired with leggings or churidar and a dupatta.
5. The **sherwani** is a traditional outfit worn by men, especially during weddings and formal occasions. It is a long coat-like garment with embroidery and intricate detailing, often paired with churidar pants.
6. The **kurta-pajama** is a classic and comfortable attire for men in Uttar Pradesh. It consists of a long tunic (kurta) paired with loose-fitting trousers (pajama).
7. **Chikankari** embroidery is used to create a wide range of products, including sarees, suits (salwar kameez), kurtas, dupattas, and lehengas.

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