

ROOTS OF SANATAN DHARM AND SANSKRIT

ARYAN INVASION vs OUT OF INDIA THEORIES

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What is Sanatan Dharm?

- Persian pronounced the river Sindhu as Hindu and the Greeks pronounced it as Indus. Hindu or Indian meant people of the Sindhu/Hindu river and then the meaning was extended to the religion of the people of this region.
- The term Hinduism is used by foreigners. During the Hindu revival period, Sanatan Dharm became the preferred term and more and more Sanatanis are using this term, just like Bharat rather than India, or Mumbai rather than Bombay.
- Sanatan = Eternal, Universal, Perennial, No Beginning.
- Dharm = Duty, Ethics, Morality, Religion, Way.

Objective of the Presentation

- For more than 100 years, and continuing even now, Indians and the world have been told that: A White race of Aryans from somewhere in Europe, the Middle East, or Central Asia invaded Bharat around 1,500 BCE and imposed their religion and language on Indians.
- This means that Sanatan Dharm and Sanskrit are alien to Bharat, brought from outside.
- British colonists promoted and taught this theory to Indians, which was continued by the Nehru dynasty and even the Modi government is teaching the same. Almost all Western “Indologists” support this theory and it is being taught in American schools and colleges.
- Most Sanatanis grow up with a poor understanding of their own civilization and culture, often repeating history they learned from biased sources in school, college, and media.
- We will analyze the issue of the origins of Sanatan Dharm and Sanskrit and critically look at the Aryan invasion / migration theories promoted by Westerners and Leftist Indians. We will explain problems with these theories and describe an alternative theory.
- This presentation is based on my research involving a review of more than 200 YouTube videos and more than 200 articles. However, I do not claim to be an expert.

Birth of Aryan Invasion Theory (AIT)

- 16th and 17th Centuries -- Italian merchant Phillippo Sessetti, Jesuit missionary Thomas Stephens, Dutch linguist Marcus Van Boxborn and other visitors to Bharat noted similarities between Indian and European languages.
- 1767 -- French Jesuit Gason Coeurdoux did a detailed analysis of the conjugations in Indian versus European languages, pointing out similarities.
- 1786 -- William Jones analyzed similarities between Sanskrit, Greek, and Latin and postulated a common ancestor language. Birth of the Indo-European language concept.
- 1829 -- Harappa discovered.
- 1853 -- Max Muller (German Orientalist living in Britain) proposed the Aryan Invasion Theory (AIT), that a white race from the Caucasus near the Caspian sea in Europe, just North of Asia border, conquered the native Sindhu-Saraswati people (generally known as Indus Valley Civilization) and brought their language and culture to Bharat.

Aryan Invasion Theory

- Mid 19th to Early 20th Century -- Many racists such as Arthur de Gobineau, Madison Grant, Houston Stewart peddled an Aryan invasion theory. Missionary Robert Caldwell started the Dravidian movement to convert Sanatanis. Nazi Party embraced the idea.
- 1921 -- Harappa excavation. Sindhu-Saraswati Civilization dated 3,300 to 1,300 BCE. It was an advanced civilization: planned cities, grid pattern, cardinal directions, standard ratios, baked bricks, water supply, drainage, advanced metallurgy (bronze, gold, silver), cotton, semi-precious stones, needles, standard weights.
- 1922 -- Mohenjo-Daro discovered. Over the next 50 years, hundreds of sights discovered and excavated. All were abandoned by residents around 1,700 BCE.
- 1947 -- Mortimer Wheeler (British archaeologist) discovered some 30+ skeletons in Mohenjo-daro and argued that now there was a scientific evidence for the violent Aryan overthrow of the Sindhu-Saraswati people, leading to its collapse and disappearance.
- 1853 until Present – Many proposed locations for Aryan homeland: Baltic, Germany, Ukraine, Pontic-Caspian Steppe, Armenia, Eurasian Steppe, Central Asia, Western Asia, Anatolia, etc. (22 places have been proposed not counting Bharat.) Marija Gimbutas proposed violent Russian steppe and Colin Renfrew peaceful Anatolian people as Aryans.

Aryan Invasion Theory

- AIT proposes that the success of the invading Aryans was due to horses and chariots, which the natives did not have.
- The onslaught by Aryans caused the local Dravidians in Punjab / Haryana area to either flee to the South or accept the Aryan culture and language.
- The Aryans brought their religion and language to Bharat.
- The Aryans became Brahmins and the native conquered people became lower castes.
- The Brahmins in the South are also Aryan.
- An imaginary Proto Indo-European (PIE) language from the Aryan homeland was proposed as the mother language of Sanskrit.
- Aryans brought iron technology to Bharat.

Damage Caused by AIT

- Used by Break-India forces.
- Colonial rule justification
 - Biblical justification. (Noah, Japhetites, Semites, Hamites)
 - Whites have an inherent superiority and therefore a right to rule.
 - Perpetuate the idea that all knowledge came from White people.
 - Has created a deep inferiority complex among Indians.
- North-South Divide -- Dravidar Kazhagam (E. V. Ramaswamy, Annadurai, Karunanidhi) used it and are still using it claiming that the descendants of Aryans (North Indians) suppressed Dravidians (South Indians).
- Some Dalit leaders (Phule) used it and are using it.
- Islamists / Christian missionaries used the Aryan theory to proselytize.
- Communists / Socialists / Leftists using it to divide and get power.
- AIT proposed class division used against Bharat in international politics.

Central Issue

- The issue is not about the movement and mixing of people or genetic composition. It is obvious that Indians are a mix of many genetic groups, as are all the countries and people of the world.
- There was a movement of people in and out of Bharat for a very long time.
- Modern humans arrived in Bharat from Africa about 60,000 years ago. Settled in South Bharat and also moved to Southeast Asia and Andaman Nicobar islands.
- Additional prehistoric migration from Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia and elsewhere took place over the millennia. There is no argument or disagreement so far.

Growth of Hindu Culture - Large Area of Presence, Interaction, and Mixing



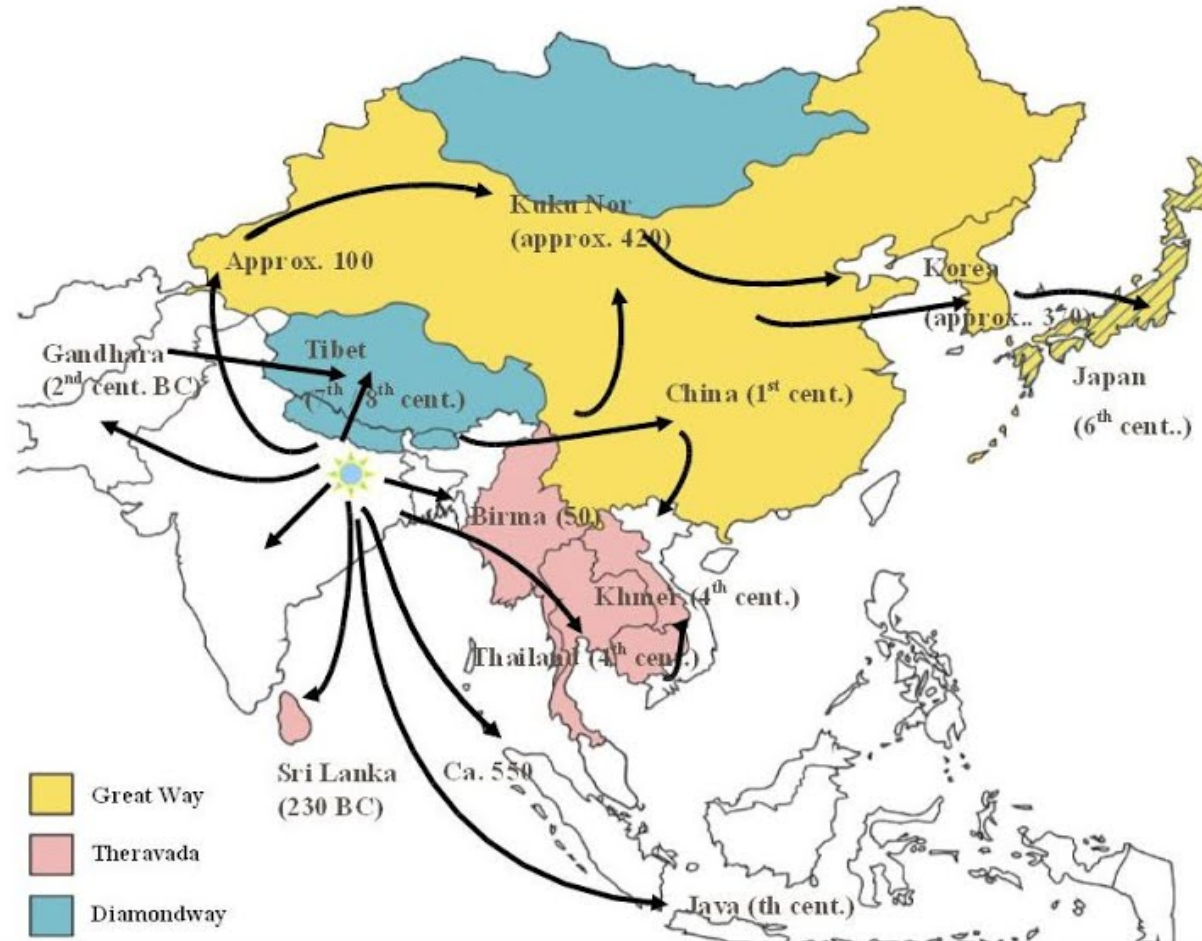
Movement of People

- Contacts with neighbors natural, so even a larger area of influence.
- Contact for trade
 - Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro had trade links with Mesopotamia in 3,000 BCE.
 - Sumer, Egypt, and Crete.
 - During the Maurya empire, Pataliputra had many foreign residents.
 - Old Testament (1400 BCE) has reference to trade between Bharat and the Syrian Coast.
- Bharat was a global educational center (Takshshila, Nalanda, etc.) that attracted foreign students.
- Cholas and others conquered South East Asia,

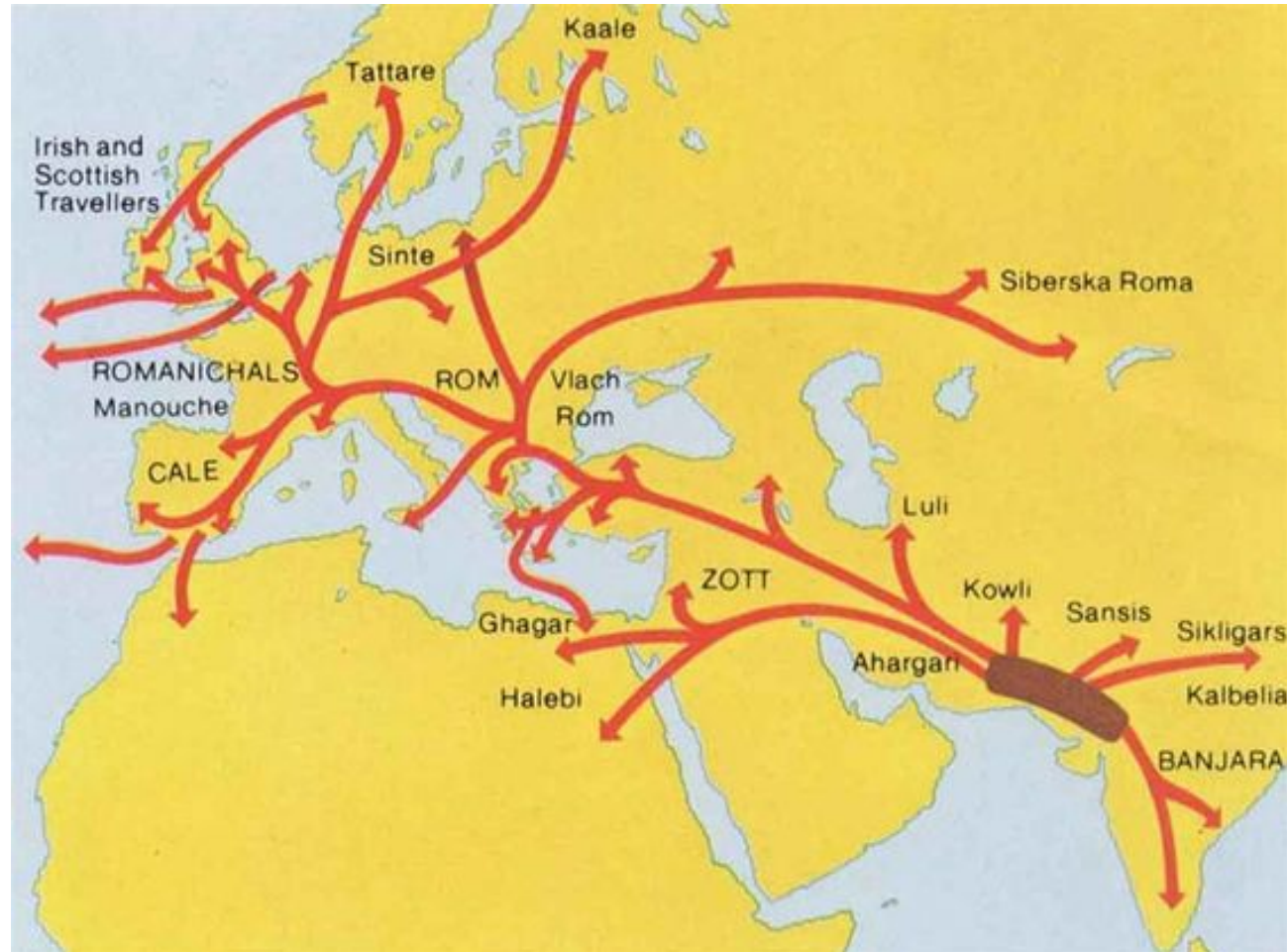
Movement of People – Invasions, Refugees

- People have kept coming to India attracted by its immense wealth.
- Many invaders including Persian 500 BCE (Cyrus the Great and Darius I), Greek 300 BCE (Alexander The Great), Scythians / Persian 100 BCE (Saka king Maues), Yuezhi Kushan 100 CE (Kanishka the Great), Central Asia Huna 500 CE (Toramana), Arab 700 CE (Muhammad bin Qasim), Afghani Turk (Mahmud of Ghazni 1000 CE, Muhammad of Ghor 1,200 CE), Mongol 1,200 CE (Genghis Khan), Central Asian, Turkic, Persian, Afghani Delhi Sultanate 1,200 to 1,500 CE (Mamluk, Khilji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, Lodi), Uzbek (Timur Lane 1,400 CE, Babur 1,500 CE), and Persian 1,700 CE (Nader Shah)
- All known invaders assimilated into the local culture. Jats and Gujjars are supposed to have originated from foreign invaders (Scythian and Huna, respectively). Integrated.
- Even the extreme Islamists such as Gazhni, Ghor, Khilji, and Aurangzeb only made a small dent in changing the local culture in 800 years of their rule.
- A welcome mat for all -- refugees such as Jews and Zoroastrians, and others such as Syrian Christians and Ethiopian slaves.

Outward Movement As Well -- Buddhism



Gypsy Migration – 1400 Years Ago



Central Issue

- Genetic movement / inflow does not mean the destruction of local culture and mass scale conversion to a new culture. (Finding Indian genes in the US does not mean, Indians brought Christianity and the English language to the US.)
- The question is: Were Sanatan Dharm and Sanskrit language brought from outside with the inward movement of people or did they evolve in Bharat and migrated out of Bharat.
- Let us rationally and objectively analyze this issue.

Theory Originated and Nurtured by Bias

- British interpreted everything in their colonial and Christian framework and to support their divide and rule strategy.
- Max Muller was funded by the East India Company, whose interest was to justify colonization. Muller stated his desire to see Bharat adopt Christianity.
- Nehru was brought up in the West and had little affinity and empathy for Sanatanis. It is said of him that he was English by education, Muslim by culture, and Hindu by accident.
- Indira Gandhi needed support from Communists to get power; in return, she agreed to turn over the Education Ministry to the Communist Party.
- A sizeable Indian Left-wing media, cultivated and nurtured during the Congress rule, is still alive and going strong.

Anti-Hindu Bias in the US

- Anti-Hindu sentiment in the US since the early 1900's – “Hindoo Invasion”, “Turban Tide”, Pat Robertson called Hinduism a Demonic religion. Nixon had Nazi-like ideas about Indians. Temples desecrated. Dotbusters have attacked Sanatanis. Hindu prayer in Congress protested.
- California Textbook – “The monkey king Hanuman loved Rama so much that it is said that he is present every time the Ramayana is told. So look around—see any monkeys?” Such open racism in 21st Century USA?
- Wendy Doniger, Michael Witzel, Sheldon Pollock, Audrey Truschke, and other “Indologists” have been on a hate Hindu campaign, distorting Hindu religion. (Doniger - Alternative history means you can lie without limit, Truschke - glorifying Aurangzeb, next she will glorify Hitler.)
- A strange alliance of Leftists and Islamists with a common goal of Hindu-bashing.
- Leftist media such as NYT, WP, The Guardian, etc. have an anti-Hindu bias.

Anti-Hindu Bias in the US

- American foundations (Amnesty, Ford, Greenpeace, Open Society, etc.) are financing anti-Hinduism.
- Many American Democratic politicians are anti-Hindu.
- The USCIRF is anti-Hindu. Why don't they look in the mirror?
- US government and politicians are using biased reports as a club against Sanatanis. Modi denied a visa.
- Not every American is racist. Many scholars have been fair and objective. But the general mindset is anti-Hindu, for sure.
- Anti-Hinduism is not challenged by meek Sanatanis and Leftist Indians actually support it so it continues.

Counterarguments Against AIT

- AIT is based on crazy assumptions with no scientific evidence.
- Sindhu-Saraswati was a very advanced culture. There is no proof that the so-called Aryan people were more advanced.
- There is no proof that the invaders came in a large number to overcome locals.
- There is no mention of any Aryan invasion or homeland outside Bharat in the Vedas.
- There is no evidence of any violent invasion. The skeletons found by Mortimer Wheeler had no injury marks as he assumed and may even be from different time periods. Other than that, no skeletons found of Aryan and Indian people who died fighting, no weapons, no smashed chariots.
- There is no proof that Aryans brought a large number of horses. Very few horse bones were found.

Counterarguments Against AIT

- Nothing has been identified as material things Aryan brought from the European steppe. There is no trace of these people, who supposedly overran a large thriving civilization.
- There is no reference anywhere of the vanquished people, their culture, language, etc. Who were the vanquished? Dravidians? There is no evidence that Tamil, spoken by Dravidians for 5,000 years, was ever spoken in North Bharat.
- There is no mention in Tamil Sangam literature of any atrocities by Aryans. Actually, there is a lot of praise and reverence.
- There is no observed discontinuity from the Sindhu-Saraswati period to modern times throughout Bharat, including the South. Hindu Puranas, Mahabharata, and Ramayana contain an uninterrupted genealogy of kings going back 6,000 years.
- Bharat already had iron technology in 1,800 BCE, not brought by Aryans,

AIT Modified to AMT

- Sindhu-Saraswati Civilization declined in some places, not because of any invasion, but due to climatic changes, e.g., the Saraswati river dried up. People from the affected areas migrated from cities to villages, and to other places such as Anatolia / Mitanni, the Gangetic plains, and Gujarat. The Sindhu Saraswati Culture did not disappear but continued, even until today.
- By the 1980s, substantial doubt arose about AIT, and by 1995 AIT was generally discarded but the AIT proponents did not give up. They modified AIT to AMT - Aryan Migration Theory. Same wine in a new bottle.
- The Migration theory proposed that instead of invasion, small bands of people from Central Asia migrated to Bharat and “intellectually” overpowered the advanced local culture. They brought Vedic religion and Sanskrit to Bharat.
- Theory changed from invasion to migration but the idea is the same racist thinking – Whites brought Vedic religion and Sanskrit language to Bharat.
- A new angle has been introduced – that of genetic science – in the last 10 years.
- As we will see, the evidence for the migration theory is also very shaky.

Counterarguments - AMT

- How do a few people migrating from a foreign country suddenly overpower the culture of a large and established civilization? Change their religion? Change their language? Is it believable that a small group convinced locals to change names of all rivers overnight to Aryan names leaving no trace of the original names? Imagination running wild? (How come at least Silicon Valley, if not the whole USA, has not already switched to Hindi or Telugu? Even the Hispanics have not made a dent.)
- There is absolutely no textual or archaeological or any other material evidence of a proto Indo-European people or language **outside** of Bharat. Purely imaginary idea. There certainly were predecessors to Sanskrit as Sanskrit evolved but predecessors were based in Bharat.
- There is no mention anywhere in Vedas of foreign immigrants, their homeland, or of any foreign leader, king, prominent people. Nor of any foreign crops, vegetables, animals, or other objects. Jainism, at least as old as Vedas, has no mention of any invasion.
- On the contrary, the Vedas describe the Westward expansion or movement suggesting out of India migration. Also, there is mention of people banished from Bharat – outward migration. Perhaps people who settled down in Anatolia and beyond in Western Europe.

Counterarguments - AMT

- Aryan arrival date in Bharat estimated by “Indologists” as 1,500 BCE because
 - God created the world in 4004 BCE,
 - Indo-European languages started separating about 3000 BCE so the Aryan migration had to be after this time,
 - Spoke wheel chariots used for migration invented around 2,000 BCE,
 - Time taken for migration from Russia to Bharat.
- Assuming Aryan arrival in 1,500 BCE, and assuming most aggressive expansion, it would have been 1,200 BCE by the time they converted everyone to their religion and language and composed the scriptures.
- Let us compare this with the reality.
- Analysis of the changes between the earliest and the last Veda compositions suggests the Vedas probably were composed over 1,000 years not 100 – 200 years assumed in the 1,200 BCE date.

Counterarguments - AMT

- It has been argued by Indian scholars that the Vedas and Sanskrit language are much older than estimated by Western “Indologists”. The early part of Rigveda was composed earlier than the third millennium BCE.
- Missing from Rigveda are things found in the Sindhu-Saraswati culture such as urbanization, bricks, fixed altar, cotton, silver, and rice, so Rigveda has to be pre-Sindhu-Saraswati (3,300 to 1,300 BCE) not after.
- The river Saraswati is mentioned some fifty times in the Rigveda, including in the Nadistuti. Saraswati is treated as a Goddess.

As per the Rigveda, Saraswati was a great river in full flow. According to Climatologists, Saraswati was in full flow before 3,600 BCE and dried up about 1,900 BCE. How can Aryans migrate into Bharat and compose Vedas praising Saraswati when it had already dried up?

Counterarguments - AMT

- Vedas, religious texts describe astronomical events dated much earlier than 1,500 BCE.
- Tilak, who was a great patriot, freedom fighter, statesman, lawyer, mathematician, and an astronomer who wrote a book "Orion: Researches Into Antiquity of The Vedas (1893)" where he uses astronomy to date the Vedas.
- Why would Aryans move to Bharat in 1,500 BCE when the Sindhu-Saraswati civilization is going through a survival crisis and a traumatic experience and dispersing all over. Do people want to migrate to the US and Canada or Syria? The migration probably happened a few centuries later when things got stabilized.
- And how did the Aryans convince the locals facing an existential crisis to switch their language and adopt a new religion? Did the locals have time for this nonsense?
- And how did these incoming bands of Aryans reach out to very dispersed people, who were not in cities anymore?

Counterarguments - AMT

- Genetics analysis has just started in the last 10 years and this science has not matured.
- Genetic studies are not conclusive. A lot of fake science and distorted interpretation based on researcher bias. Tony Joseph of The Hindu writing rubbish. For example, R1a Haplogroup is found extensively both in Europe and Bharat. AMT supporters are claiming that it came from Europe to Bharat around 1500 BCE. (The Aryan Invasion / Migration idea.)
- Others argue the exact opposite.
 - Studies finding high diversity and concentration of R1a in Bharat meaning it originated in Bharat and migrated to Europe.
 - The highest concentration of R1a1 in Bengali Brahmins, Manipuri, and Nepali people, far away from Northwest Bharat.
 - R1a found not only in Brahmins (supposedly Aryans) but also in Indian tribals.
- Rakhigarhi researchers totally reject the Aryan migration theory.

Counterarguments - AMT

- Bharat was far more advanced earlier than other places -- knowledge moved from Bharat to outside. Evidence available in Indonesia, Angkor Wat in Cambodia, etc. The spread of Buddhism from Bharat is well known.
- Analysis of all the bones found in the Sindhu-Saraswati area does not support the Aryan theory. No difference in bones found.
- Vedas describe Samudra and ships that Aryans from land-locked Central Asia would not be familiar with.
- There is absolutely no evidence of Aryans bringing religion and language to Bharat.
- The incoming Aryans, if any, must have behaved like Indian migrants coming to the US today. Aryans moved to an advanced culture, settled down, learned local culture, language, married, and assimilated, their children switched to local religion and spicy food. Lost in the melting pot. The reverse narrative appears imaginary and ridiculous.

Sanatanis Wake Up – Out of India Theory

- During Indira Gandhi's rule, prominent Sanatani historians such as Jadunath Sarkar, Nilakant Sastri, R.C. Majumdar were ignored and anti-Hindu historians such as Saiyid Nurul Hasan, Irfan Habib, and Romila Thapar were put in charge of creating and teaching distorted history, learned by most Indians alive today.
- A small group of Sanatanis such as Sita Ram Goel was always fighting the racist theories but getting nowhere during the Nehru dynasty rule. Finally, the oppression is lifted under Modi, so led by Western Sanatanis such as Koenraad Elst, David Frawley, Michel Danino, and Francois Gautier, joined by local scholars such as Shrikant Talageri, some progress is being made.
- Their research suggests that Sanatan Dharm is indigenous and Sanskrit is a native Indian language and the mother of all Indo-European languages.
- Actually, there was an out of India migration.

Support for Out of India (OIT) Theory

- Bharat has the second-largest gene diversity after Africa so its civilization is the second oldest, and earlier than Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, etc.
- More and more evidence of the antiquity of the Indian civilization is emerging, some going back to 9,500 years. (Submerged Dwarka)
- The Rakhigarhi DNA suggests that Bharat developed agriculture on its own, thus demolishing another unfounded theory that farming came to Bharat from West Asia / Persia. All mice worldwide originated from Bharat. Must have traveled with Indians migrating to other parts carrying agricultural products.
- Rakhigarhi analysis confirms Indian genes in Iran and Turkmenistan.
- Avesta is similar to Rigveda. Linguistic analysis suggests Avesta is younger. It appears that Sanatanis introduced their religion and language to Persia.
- Indian Peacock imagery and Zebu cattle appear in West Asia about 2,200 BCE.

Support for Out of India (OIT) Theory

- The Mitanni kings / aristocracy had Sanskrit names (Mitra, Varuna, Indra, Nasya) and their language was Sanskrit based. That timing is not early but late Vedic period (about 1,350 BCE) indicating migration from Bharat as Sindhu-Saraswati culture came under pressure.
- Yazidi Kurdish religion seems to have Vedic influence. Wingspread Peacock, reincarnation, folded hand Namaste greeting, pyramid-shaped gopura.
- Lithuanian language is similar to Sanskrit, indicating migration from Bharat. Some suggest from Baltistan in Kashmir.
- Indian cows in Ukraine, suggesting migration from Bharat.
- Brahmi and Siddham scripts in China, Japan, and Korea.
- There was a movement of people all over including Indians going out. India conquered most of South East Asia. Mittani kingdom in Anatolia was definitely Sanatani. Why is it not possible for Indians to have migrated to Central Asia and Europe, even conquered those people?

Sanskrit Has to be the Mother Language

- Compared to other Indo-European languages, Sanskrit is the most logical, methodical, complete, sophisticated, and complex.
- A rich alphabet and an ability to create complex conjunct letters / sounds.
- One to one correspondence between spelling and pronunciation. Logical arrangement of the alphabet into vowels and consonants, the latter are further categorized as guttural, palatal, labial, cerebral, dental, etc. Unique among thousands of non-Sanskrit languages.
- Nouns and verbs mostly evolved from roughly 2000 roots (dhatu) using well-defined rules. This is of great significance as progression can only be one way.
- Three genders, three persons, eight cases, 20+ different declension tables depending on gender and the word ending, Ten tenses/moods.

Sanskrit Has to be the Mother Language

- 22 prefixes allow for creating new words so there are almost a million words in the Sanskrit dictionary.
- Rich language – more than 100 synonyms for water describing different characteristics of water.
- Sandhi rules are more complex than in any other language.
- It is impossible to take an inferior mother language and retrofit / enhance its grammar to such a high level of sophistication. (William Jones – more perfect than the Greek, more copious than the Latin, and more exquisitely refined than either.)
- Enormous ancient literature of the highest quality.
- Sanskrit is closest to the hypothesized PIE language so shouldn't the homeland be Bharat?

Conclusions

- AIT/AMT was promoted by colonists, Christians, and local Indian Islamists / missionaries / Leftists break-Bharat forces. There are many issues and problems with these theories highlighted in this presentation, which raise serious doubts about their validity.
- OIT is a viable alternative theory but to determine the magnitude and direction of the migration need more research. Fortunately, the Western “Indologist” monopoly is breaking up and fading, the same as the dwindling Western Imperialism. Hindu scholars are finding their voice. This should lead to finding the truth. Whatever it is, Sanatanis will accept it.
- Sanatanis need to get rid of the baggage of foreign rule and its consequent inferiority complex. We have a glorious history, let us take pride in it. Let us not be passive but stand up for our religion, culture, and rights. But let us not flip to the other side and become jingoistic or xenophobic. Response to racism should not be counter-racism.
- Sanatanis need to continue inclusive, accepting, intellectual Hindu traditions and values (Ram Rajya where morality, not legality is the guiding principle) but get rid of caste, corruption, and other vices that have crept into our religion.
- Some references discussing the subject at a high-level follow.

YouTube Selected Overview References

- General

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUgoCNtldcQ>

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