



Malayalam

at Wordsworth

Every morning, 8 children whose first language is Malayalam walk through the gates of our school. Do you know if anyone in your class can speak Malayalam?



Do you know
where Malayalam
is spoken?

It is spoken in the Indian state of
Kerala.

Facts about the Malayalam speaking world:

- Malayalam is a Dravidian language spoken in the Indian state of Kerala and the union territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry by the Malayali people. Malayalam was designated a "Classical Language of India" in 2013.
- The capital of Kerala is Thiruvananthapuram (തിരുവനന്തപുരം).
- Kerala is such a beautiful, magical place that it was also named 'God's Own Country'

Facts about Malayalam:

- more than 35 million speakers
- has a recorded history of more than 2000 years. Malayalam is a Dravidian language with distinct script, evolved grammar and rich literature.

Kerala has no official flag, but the government uses the white banner with the state emblem in the centre like all state and territory governments in India. The emblem portrays two elephants guarding the state emblem of India.



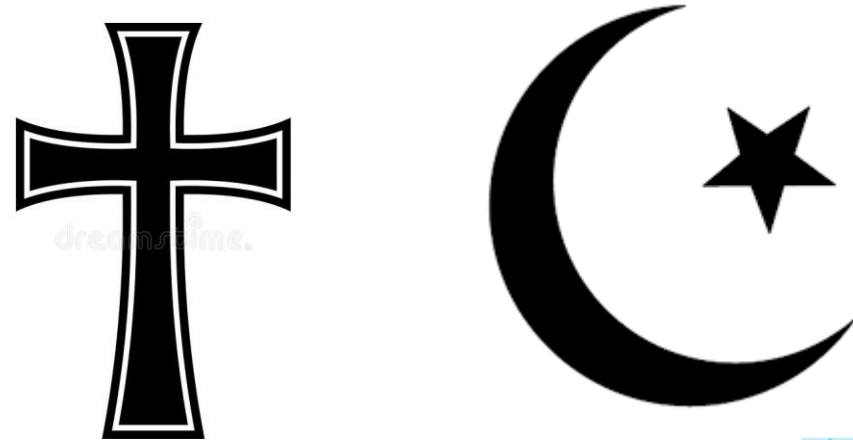
Kanikonna, also known as the golden shower flower, is the state flower of Kerala.



This beautiful butterfly is the state butterfly and is called Malabar banded peacock (Papilio buddha).

Religion in Kerala

- About 60% of the state population is Hindu, 20% Christian and the remaining 20% Muslim.
- Kerala is known for its communal harmony and religious tolerance. Violence and outbreaks in the name of religion are almost unheard of. This peaceful coexistence may be attributed to the history of the state.



The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect. The rest of the background is a solid, very light blue.

A few famous places to visit in Kerala:



Thekkady – a hill town in Kerala, so beautiful and enchanting due to its pleasant climate, diverse wildlife population, fascinating location, and heart-warming locals. The state animal is the Indian elephant, and there are over 2,000 elephants in Kerala.



Kozhikode - also called 'The city of spices' or 'The City of Sculptures', offers many alluring beaches and waterfalls.



Guruvayur Sri Krishna Temple - the fourth largest Hindu temple in India.



Ooty - The Botanical Gardens, a delight for all those who appreciate nature.



The Dolphin's nose is a gigantic rock that resembles the nose of a dolphin. The viewpoint situated in Ooty is settled at an altitude of 1000 feet.

Conversation

- ▶ Hello! ഹലോ! hallo!
- ▶ Goodbye! വീട! vida!



During formal occasions, it is common for Indian people in Kerala to greet with the traditional Hindu greeting of “Namaste” (‘I greet the divine within you’). This is accompanied with a nod of the head or a bow depending on the status of the person you are greeting. A common gesture when greeting is pressing the palms together with the fingertips facing upwards (i.e. in a prayer position). This greeting is sometimes accompanied with a slight bow.

Let's have a look at the Malayalam alphabet:

Independent Vowels:

അ	ആ	ഇ	ഈ	ഉ	ഊ	ഋ	ൠ
[a]	[aa]	[i]	[ii]	[u]	[uu]	[r]	[rr]
ഒ	ഌ	എ	ഐ	ഒ	ഔ	ഐ	ഔ
[l]	[ll]	[e]	[ee]	[o]	[oo]	[ai]	[au]

Dependent Vowels:

ാ	ി	ീ	ു	ൂ	ൃ	ൠ	ൡ
[aa]	[i]	[ii]	[u]	[uu]	[r]	[rr]	
െ	േ	ൈ	ൈ	ൊ	ോ	ൗ	
[e]	[ee]	[ai]	[ai]	[o]	[oo]	[au]	

Malayalam Consonants

ക	ഖ	ഗ	ഘ	ങ
[ka]	[kha]	[ga]	[gha]	[nga]
ച	ഛ	ജ	ട	ണ
[ca]	[cha]	[ja]	[jha]	[nya]
ട	ഠ	ഡ	ഢ	ണ
[ta]	[ttha]	[dda]	[ddha]	[nna]
ത	ഥ	ദ	ധ	ന
[ta]	[tha]	[da]	[dha]	[na]
ണ	പ	ഫ	ബ	ഭ
[nnna]	[pa]	[pha]	[ba]	[bha]
മ	യ	ര	റ	ല
[ma]	[ya]	[ra]	[rra]	[la]
ള	ഴ	വ	ശ	ഷ
[lla]	[lla]	[va]	[sha]	[ssa]
സ	ഹ	ഠ		
[sa]	[ha]	[tta]		

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Malayalam Numeral

൦	൧	൨	൩	൪
[zero]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
൫	൬	൭	൮	൯
[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]
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In Malayalam, there are 14 vowel and 42 consonant letters.

Malayalam language has **a complex spoken and written grammar**.

Besides, it differs a lot from English and other languages. Due to this, **Malayalam is considered as one of the toughest languages to learn.**

Food

Traditional Malayalam food and/or snacks



Idiyappam (egg curry)



Puttu And Kadala Curry (often a morning snack made of rice, coconut and curry or bananas)



Thalassery Biryani (chicken, rice, peppers, spices)

Music

Song for young children: [Kochu Poocha Kunjinoru Ammutti Malayalam Rhymes – YouTube](#)

Traditional Malayalam music : [Non Stop Malayalam Instrumental Music | Malayalam Instrumental music \(youtube.com\)](#)

Modern Malayalam music: [Neela Nilave - Video Song | RDX | Kapil Kapilan | Sam CS | Shane Nigam, Antony Varghese, Neeraj Madhav \(youtube.com\)](#)

