



# The Children's Saturday Post Of India™



Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

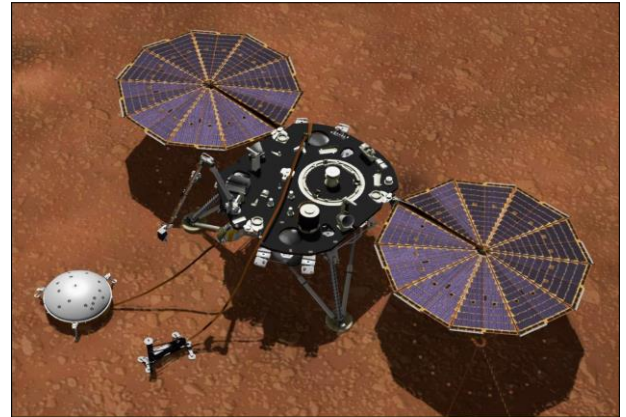
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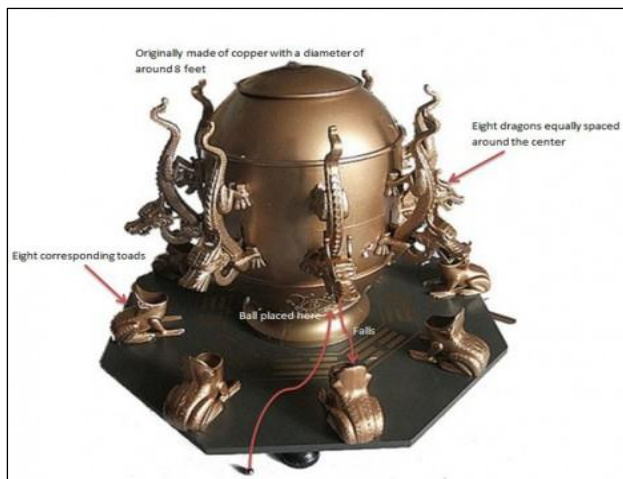
## Not Earthquakes, but Marsquakes by Tanvi

A marsquake, which is much like an earthquake, shakes the surface of Mars because of the sudden release of energy from the core of the planet due to the movement of tectonic plates. These cause tremors and sometimes volcanic eruption in hotspots (a region within a planet's core from which heat arises). Olympus Mons and Tharsis Montes are two big volcanoes on Mars.

Two strong and clear quakes originating from a place called Cerberus Fossae on Mars on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 of frequencies 3.3 and 3.1 were detected by NASA's robotic lander probe InSight. It was the first mission to explore the deep interior of Mars. It first landed on the Elysium Planitia region of Mars on November 26.



Sky map created based on GAIA data with 1.8 million stars  
Image from Twitter handle @esascience



Originally made of copper with a diameter of around 8 feet  
Eight dragons equally spaced around the center  
Eight corresponding toads  
Ball placed here

The First Seismograph  
Image source: theworldofchinese.com

Previously recorded quakes were of magnitudes 3.6 and 3.5. InSight has recorded over 500 quakes to date.

On Earth, quakes are caused due to tectonic movement under the planet's crust. When tectonic plates collide or slide over one another, they cause disturbance, which results in earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. These disturbances cause vibrations that spread in all directions.

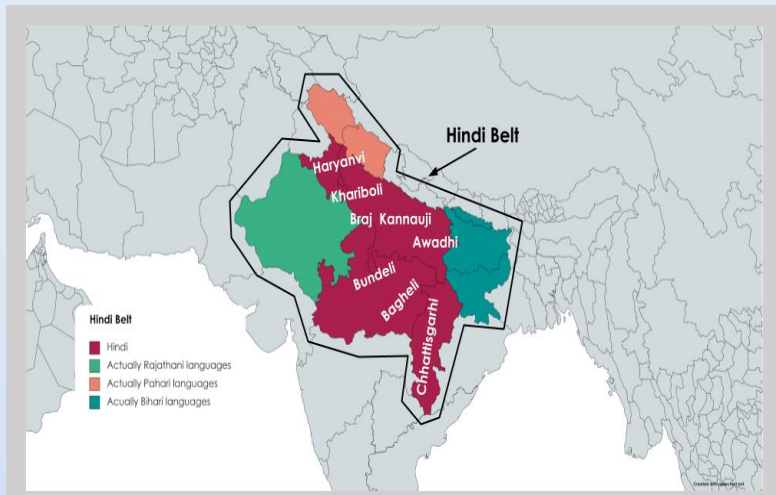
The instrument used to measure earthquakes is called a seismograph, which was first invented in 132 CE by the Chinese astronomer and mathematician Chang Heng. He called it an "earthquake weathercock".

Fun fact: An earthquake on December 16, 1811 made the Mississippi River in the United States temporarily flow backwards.

## Languages in India: Hindi (हिन्दी)

By Pravar Mukkala

Modern Standard Hindi is a Central Indo-Aryan language and is the official language of India. It is spoken as a major language in Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. It is written using the Devanagari script. Hindi is closely related to Modern Standard Urdu, and is an example of diglossia, where two dialects are considered separate languages. Hindi-Urdu is also an example of digraphia, where two dialects are written using two different scripts, as Urdu is written using the Perso-Arabic script.



Hindi's lexicon (vocabulary) is rooted in four sources: Evolved Sanskrit words (which make up the base of the language), Persian or Arabic words, Classical Sanskrit (also known as तत्सम (tatsam) words), and European languages.

Hindi evolved from Shauraseni Prakrit, the corrupted form of Sanskrit spoken in North-Central India. It underwent many changes, including the lengthening of vowels following double consonants (हस्त (hasta) "hand" in Sanskrit to हाथ (haath) in Hindi), loss of final vowels (रात्रि (raatri) "night" to रात (raat)), nasalization of vowels before nasal consonants (बन्ध (bandha) "bond" to बाँध (baādh)), collapsing of words (अपर (apara) "additionally" to और (aur)), -m into -v̄ (ग्राम "village" (graama) to गांव (gaaṁ)), -ḍ- to either -l- or -r- (तडाग (taḍaaga) "pond" to तालाब (taalaab)), and the loss of vowels near conjunct consonants (सुस्थिर (susthira) "stable" to सुथरा (suthraa)).

Additionally, Hindi was influenced a lot by Persian and Arabic. Some Persian loanwords used in everyday conversation in Hindi include दरवाज़ा (darvaazaa "door"), सब्ज़ी (sabzi "vegetable"), हमेशा (hamesha "forever"), किताब (kitaab "book"), and खुशी (khushi "happiness").

Hindi also consists of formal Sanskrit vocabulary that has been pulled from Classical Sanskrit and used as normal vocabulary. This happened mainly to differentiate formal Hindi from formal Urdu, as the same happened with Persian/Arabic and Urdu.

Hindi has many dialects, including the eastern dialects of Awadhi, Bagheli, and Chhattisgarhi, and the western dialects of Haryanvi, Braj, Bundeli, Kannauji, and Khariboli. Modern Standard Hindi is based on Khariboli, the dialect spoken in and near Delhi.

Continued on page 4

## Grandma's Corner by Kiran aunty

Fixing one stone over the other with cement takes 2 minutes. If you have to fix 15 stones one above the other, how much time is required?

### Last Week's Answer!!!!

We should choose the 1st shop to buy the storybooks. The discount given by the 1st shop is 55 % and the discount given by the second shop comes out to be 52% after two successive discounts.

Assume the cost of one book is Rs. 100, we will have to pay Rs. 45 in the 1st shop but in the 2nd shop we will have to pay Rs. 48 after the discount.

## Saturday Champions

**Champs who answered last week's Grandma's Corner are:**

Jahnvi Shivmurti Mishra, Saachi Jain

**Champs who made out last week's Close-Up (rusk / toast) are:**

Bhargavi Patil, Sneha Vikram Vedpathak, Arya Gavali, Shubhangi Dash, Swasti Priya Swain, Amruta Deshpande, Amey Haldankar, Priyansh Jain, Swetha. R, Jahnvi Shivmurti Mishra, Shabana Begum, Divyansh Soni

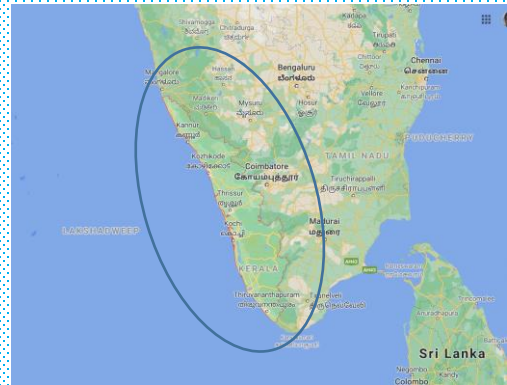
Keep up the good work and keep sending those answers!!!

## Know the States of India

By Amey Haldankar

### Kerala

Kerala is a southern state bordered by Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and the union territory of Puducherry. Kerala has 14 districts, and its capital is Thiruvananthapuram.



The Malabar Coast dominates the physical geography, with the Nilgiri, Anaimalai, and Cardamom hills along the border with Tamil Nadu. The Periyar, Pamba and Chaliyar are some of the major rivers flowing in Kerala.

Kerala has a land area of 38,863 sq. km and the population is 33.41 million. Thus, its population density is 859 people per sq. km. Ernakulam, Kollam, Kozhikode, Alappuzha, Thissur, Kochi, Kannur, and Thiruvananthapuram are some of the major cities in Kerala.

Kerala has the highest literacy rate in India with 91.8%. Malayalam is the most spoken language followed by Tamil, Tulu, and Kannada.

Alleppey, Wayanad, Cochin, Kovalam Beach, Munnar, Blossom Park, Lockhart Gap, and Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary are some of the major tourist spots in Kerala.

Fun fact: Vasco da Gama first landed in India at Kochi in the present-day state of Kerala in 1498.

## Editorial

Hello twinkling stars,

We have been listening to a lot of negative news in the past few days. Today, for a change, please sit down and list a few positive things that happened to you. It can be about a favorite book you read, a nice cool breeze you experienced at the end of a hot summer day, craft or art time with your siblings, or a yummy snack made by a family member.

Share those moments with us so we can spread the positivity and cheer 😊. We are just an email away so list down the things that brought out your smile and hit that send button!

Poornima aunty  
[tcpedit@gmail.com](mailto:tcpedit@gmail.com)

## Languages in India continued...

Hindi is the official language of all of the states in the Hindi belt: Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, and Jharkhand. However, it is only spoken as a native language in some of these states. The actual languages spoken in the other states, including Bhojpuri, Maithili, Magahi, Marwari, Garhwali, are sociolinguistically considered dialects. Sociolinguistics is the study of language and society's impact on it. The languages spoken in some states of the Hindi belt are "dialects" only because Hindi is the official language of the state, and because the Indian government classifies these languages as "Hindi" on national censuses.

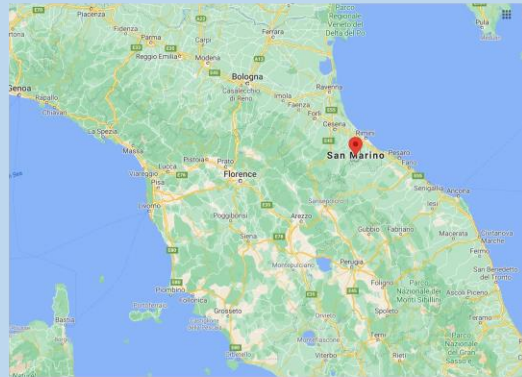
Hindi, including its "dialects", has 342 million native speakers and 600 million total speakers.



## Countries of the World

Praneeth Udathu

San Marino is a small landlocked country bordering Italy and located to the northeast of the Apennine Mountains. It is the fifth smallest country in the world by area.



In 301 CE, Saint Marinus built a church on the land that would become San Marino. This initial church community grew into San Marino and throughout the 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, the country was a safe place for many popes. During WWI and WWII, it remained neutral even though Italy was not. It then became the first communist nation in the 1940s and 50s but is now a democratic republic. It has the lowest unemployment rate in the world and currently has a budget surplus (meaning they do not have any debt to pay other nations).

The capital of San Marino is San Marino and its largest city is Dogana.

The national language is Italian but Emilian-Romagnol is also commonly spoken in San Marino and its surrounding areas.

The official currency is the euro even though San Marino is not part of the EU.

Fun fact: San Marino can be considered to have the oldest surviving national constitution in the world as it was drafted in 1600.

Famous people from San Marino include Marco Macina and Giovanni Battista Belluzzi.

Artwork by Raksha K Anchan (left), Aaradhya Bharti (Right)



Make-up the Close-up



Artist Corner: Ameya

Look at the close-up picture of a larger object below and tell us what that object is ☺  
If you ever watched the preparation of a delicacy you will know what this is. This can be used to make both savoury and sweet items.



### Credits and Answers

San Marino flag from Wikipedia.org

Sports news image is from official twitter handle of BCCI

This edition has been reviewed by Gunjan Sharma and Rachna Sarah Thomas.

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We love contributions! Please share all contributions with us at [tcpedit@gmail.com](mailto:tcpedit@gmail.com)