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THE NEW PARADIGMS OF INDIAN ENGLISH IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT



The English language was the most priceless gift by the British to India with the entrance of the British on the Indian coast for business. Roughly the English language has three hundred years of existence in India. Such a language now has grown leaps and bounds and became one of the widely used languages and largely accepted Lingua Franca in India. In a recent survey, it is noticed that around 8% to 11% of educated minority people speak this language as their second language for day today activities. This global language has a successful journey among people from different communities, cultures and religions. Consequently, in the present context, we cannot think our life is comfortable in India without English. , we should accept, beyond all doubts, the Indian English has been serving as a major tool for communication and other purposes regionally, Nationally and even Internationally

.Keywords: *English, Indian English, Second Language.*

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English in India is a symbol of people's aspirations for quality in education and fuller participation in national and international lives. As on today, the American English has a prominence role in India because of mushrooming of the American Software, IT and other Multinational corporations. But, as the recent trends in the global job market, by 2030, India will be the largest suppliers of human resources to the world and then American English will be replaced by Indian English. Indianization of English language will be the inevitable factor globally. Indian English spoken throughout the Subcontinent is vibrant, varies from region to region, and follows its own rules of development. The various dialects of English spoken even within the country underscore the unique languages and cultures of the people who speak them. As noted, the term "Indian English" refers to the type of English spoken in India. Interestingly, English also unites North, South, East and West India which are culturally and linguistically disparate in other aspects. Indian English is now an efficient and fairly stable variety existing in its own right, having its own frame of references and symbolizing a distinct socio-cultural reality.

The English language spoken on the Indian Sub-continent has some distinctive characteristics that set it apart from other international varieties of English such as RP (Received Pronunciation) and GA (General American) - better known as British English and American English. These differences arose as a result of a long period during which English was in constant contact with languages spoken natively in India. That period is ongoing. As a result, the variety of English spoken on the sub-continent is frequently called Indian English. Indian English, also called

South Asian English or 'British Indian English', was solely replaced Persian as the official language of the East Indian Company for their business transactions that entered India on 24th August 1608 to trade in species and other commercial products. Initially, through Charter Act of 1833 Lord Bentinck, the Governor General of India, initiated the Introduction of English in India. Further, Lord Macaulay, who was a pioneer, had lion's share in introducing English education Act of 1935. This momentous decision paved the way for the eventful entrenchment of English language in India. Furthermore, Raja Ram Mohan Roy demanded English education for Indians. He thought English language would be more useful for Indians than Indian languages for academic, Socio, Economic, scientific and interactive purposes.

At present, the government of India uses English for communication along with Hindi as it is consecrated in the Constitution of India. The English language is an official language in seven states and seven Union territories and serves as the additional official language in seven other states and one Union territory and also English is the sole official language of Indian territory under Article 343 of the Constitution of India. English gets the status of an associate official language. The 20th Century witnessed further strengthening of its roots in India as an influential language. The period, since then, has seen tremendous invoke in English knowing Indians and even after the British formally left India in 1947, English language has continued to gain ground and has become more and more firmly entrenched in the Indian soil. After the British left India, English language forced to be remained an official language of the new Dominion of India and later the Republic



of India. As on the date roughly 0.1% Indians use the English language as their first language and 30% speak acceptable English. According to the 2011 Census report (2021 Census of India has been delayed and postponed to 2024-25) 12.81% of Indians know and use English and the number may go to nearly 20% by 2024. Of those, approximately 200,000 (by 2024, 300,000) reported that it is and will be their first language. 86 million (by 2024, 120 million) reported that English is and will be their second language. 39 million (by 2024, 50 million) reported that it is and will be their third language. India, out of 111 countries in the world, ranked 52 in the 2022 English fluency and proficiency index published by the English Fluency Educates First. The Index gives the country a score of 496 indicating 'Moderate Proficiency'. India ranks 6th out of 24 Asian countries included in the index. As India is branded as a multi lingual country, English has been established and proved that it is the 'Lingua Franca' of the different people of India. Owing to the significance and usage of the language and others desire for English language education, English is the de facto national language of India and it is accepted that Indian Nationalism and the emergence of Good English are inseparable, inter dependable and interrelated.

Globally, English is one of the three largest languages spoken and it is also spoken in India widely from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. As the English language enjoys almost a Position that it is inseparable with the Indian languages, the term 'Indian English' may be apt. It refers to the multi-faceted usage of the English language in different parts of India and also it serves as a link language and

common communicative tool among people of different linguistic backgrounds. The original British English may be transformed into Indenisation of English in order to fit into the varied language, socio, cultural and traditional backgrounds of the Indians. So, it flourishes with leaps and bounds throughout India. In India alone, besides many facets of English Worldwide, we have many varieties of English like Chi Chi English, Broken English, Kitchen English, Boxwala English, Bearers English, Pidgin English, Butler English, Babu or Bengal English and so on. As Raja Rao rightly remarks, "as long as we are Indians – that is not Nationalist, but truly Indias of Indian psyche- we shall have the English language with us and amongst us, and not as guest or friend ,but as one of our own, our caste, our creed, our sect and our tradition". In India the English language has lost its value and place of a foreign language, as it is entwined and blended with most of the Indian languages and used this language both as a second language or third language and in some parts of the country it is even used as the first language.

Almost everyone, at least in the urban centers in India has a workable knowledge of Hindi. But many parts of India including South Indian states offer a stiff resistance to Hindi becoming the sole national language. It has also made English stay in official functioning as a link language joining the length and breadth of this immensely diverse country as far as its linguistic culture is concerned. Regarding the major functions of English in India...viz Instrumental, Regulative, Interpersonal, Innovative or Creative. Instrumental function in the sense the English language is used for instructions and serves as a medium of learning in the educational



institutions. Regulative function means the English language is used as court or legal language. The English language is mainly used as a tool to share communication among linguistically and culturally diverse groups are termed as Interpersonal function. The English language usage resulted in the development of a significant body of Indian English within various genres.

Coming to sub varieties of Indian English are Butler English / Tamil English. The English dialect used in the erstwhile Madras state is mentioned as Butler English in the 19th Century during the British Raj. The Butler English is faulty or broken language but it was used by a group of people to communicate with the British. Babu English or Bengal English or Eastern Indian English is the English language used in West Bengal and its surrounding regions. It is extremely stylistics ornamentation. Punjabi English is the local Punjabi slang mixed with the English language and is spoken in the local areas. Gujarati/Parsi English is the aroma of Gujarati or Parsi is clearly seen in this type of language. Hindi English is an amalgamation of Hindi and English words. Another variant of Indian English is Boxwala English which is used by itinerant peddlers. There is another refined Indian English is used in the Standard English News Papers of Hindi region. Assamese English refers to the English spoken by Assamese speakers. Some major differences between Assamese English and British English are mostly seen in some consonants and English Vowels in Assamese are usually short. West Indian English here refers to a variety of English spoken in the western part of India. Cultivated Indian English refers to non-localised, non-working class and more recent varieties of India and the surrounding

region of India. It includes mainstream Indian English, a widely common, upper-class variety that preserves a few local Indian features while setting the basis for an otherwise General Indian English accent as well as cultivated Indian English. South Indian English i.e., Tenglish, Tanglish and Kanglish are the broad varieties of Southern India. General Indian English refers to a variety originating outside of the eastern regions and Southern regions, crossing regional boundaries throughout the Republic of India. Cultivated Indian English is almost entirely this general Indian dialect but with a few additional features derived from Received Pronunciation or World Wide Accepted pronunciation. All these Indian dialects have not diluted instead enriched the English language in India.

Today, Indian skilled workers have become a major work force in almost all the countries in the world only because they can communicate with their inhabitants in this language easily, thanks to India's huge population that spread around internationally to make it possible. English has not only become a parallel link language in India but also a status symbol in this country. The better one speaks it, the more prestige does he/she claim in the higher social echelons as well as in the specialized professional echelons over here. In the recent years since the coming of IT revolution throughout the world, English has further enhanced its status as the true international language. In fact it joins the entire world through the Internet, facilitating all-encompassing e-business and e-commerce activities in each and every corner of the world. It all went highly in favor of the Indian population that already had a widespread exposure to this language during a



very long history of the colonial rule in the hands of the British.

English has become an integral part of India's linguistic landscape, offering numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth. As the number of English speakers in India continues to rise, it is essential to ensure that English education is accessible to all and that proficiency in the language is seen as a tool for empowerment rather than exclusion. By embracing English while preserving regional languages, India can navigate the globalized world while staying rooted in its rich cultural heritage

As the Indian English has been well established in India, its significance, role and functions grow day by day.

IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN INDIA IN POINTS

- English is the world's leading language. Out of 19000+ languages, English is spoken in every part of India.
- Union Government Records are written in Hindi and English. Other State Governments have records written in the State's official language and English.
- English is essential to the field of education. From primary to higher education in India, almost all books are in English.
- In the era of digitalization, English is a must for online international business.
- In freelancing, India ranks as the 2nd largest freelance workforce after the US with over 15 million people working independently in

various sectors and they can't work without knowing English.

- English is important because it is the Language of International Communication.
- English is the language of the web. Over 565 million individuals use the web each day, and about 52% of the world's most visited sites are shown in English.
- Numerous movies, TV shows, books, and music are produced in English. By getting to these media, you will likewise consistently improve your English communication and understanding abilities.
- It gives you an open way to the world and assists you with speaking with worldwide residents. If you meet somebody from another country, you can both communicate only in English.
- The English language makes it a lot simpler to travel anyplace. Visiting out to a country where you don't communicate in your language helps you understand English.
- English upgrades your psychological, scientific, cognition capacities, and it can make you more imaginative.
- Learning English isn't just helpful; however, it gives gratification and will allow you to feel extraordinary.

In the midst of such linguistic variety, as it often does elsewhere on earth, English serves as a medium to unite people who do not share the same regional mother tongue. As mentioned above, the English language plays a pivotal role in



administration, International communication and its usage enables a much higher degree of technological and scientific progress. Besides all the challenges that Indian English facing for so long, we should accept, beyond all doubts, the Indian English has been serving as a major tool for communication and other purposes regionally, Nationally and even Internationally. Indian English in India established itself as an efficient and fairly stable variety serving its own domain fairly enough.

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