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Arya-Dravidian Partition Controversy

Why in Newspapers?

Recently, the Governor of Tamil Nadu was criticized for his views on the Aryan-Dravidian divide.

Quick Issue?

- Historian P.T. Views of Srinivasa Iyengar: According to these, cultural differences exist between Vedic and non-Vedic peoples.
- Caldwell's contribution to Dravidian languages: Robert Caldwell, an English missionary, gave the idea of understanding the 'Dravidian language family' as a scientific unit in the year 1856.

Historical Background?

- **First Indians:** The first modern humans arrived in India about 65,000 years ago, as part of an outward migration from Africa. The genetic lineage of these first migrants is still dominant in the Indian population and still accounts for 50-65% of the Indian ancestry today.
- **Second Major Migration (9000 to 5000 years ago):** Agriculturists from the Zagros region of Iran migrated to the northwestern part of India and mixed with the 'First Indians' and accelerated farming – especially wheat and barley helped. He laid the foundation of the Harappan Civilization (2600 BC to 1900 BC). However, the pictorial script of the Harappans is not yet understood.
- **Third Major Migration (around 2000 BCE):** When farming-related migration originally started from the Chinese mainland and spread to Southeast Asia and then to India. Along with this, languages of the Austro-Asiatic family reached India, e.g. Mundari and Khasi, spoken in the eastern and central parts of the country.
- **Fourth Major Migration (2000 to 1000 BCE):** During this period 'Central Asian shepherd tribes' came to India, these groups spoke Indo-European languages and called themselves Aryans.
- **Iron Age:** The discovery and use of iron led to the establishment of settlements in the Ganges valley and in the hinterland in central India. In addition, the formation of Mahajanapadas led to the creation of empires, such as the Nanda dynasty, the Maurya dynasty, etc. and the constant struggle for land and control, which led to the mingling of

Other Key Facts?

AI4India

- AI4Bharat is an initiative of IIT Madras. This initiative will contribute to and accelerate the work of Indian Language AI as a public interest.
- It has been aligned with the objectives of Digital India 'Bhashini Mission'.
- It has been launched to create open-source language AI for Indian languages.
- The 'Digital India Language Mission' was started with the objective of making available all the services and information to the citizens in their own language.



peoples. This led to the spread of Sanskrit, and Prakrit languages to various parts of India and even to South-East Asia (through Buddhism).

- **200 BC to 300 AD:** Invasion of Indo-Greeks, Central Asian rulers (eg Kushans, speaking various Indo-European languages): Greeks, Central Asian traditions increased cultural interaction with Indian culture.
- **Sangam Age:** By the 3rd century BCE, megalithic peoples migrated from the uplands into fertile river valleys and fertile marshy delta regions. They formed three powerful kingdoms, the Cholas, the Pandyas and the Cheras. He helped in the spread of Tamil languages in South India and South-East Asia.
- **Trade:** The Silk Road and spice trade, Christian missions (such as Thomas the Apostle left for India around the 1st century CE), etc. facilitated the exchange of goods, ideas and languages between the world and the ancient civilizations of India.
- **Medieval India:** - Medieval period, Indian and Indian languages - Foreign invaders from Central Asia such as Ghaznavi and Ghori, Arabs in western India, Turkic dynasty, Mongols invasions, and Mughals from Fergana Valley (modern Uzbekistan) influenced by the Islamic conquest. Various languages like Turkish, Persian, Arabic etc. came to India with these invaders. Siamese-Chinese culture and languages spread through the Ahom kingdom in India's northeast (originally from Yunnan Province in China) and subsequent invasions from Burma.
- **Modern India:** European traders and missionaries introduced various European languages, western culture and Renaissance ideas to India.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. Which of the following was given the status of classical language?

- (a) Oriya
- (b) Konkani
- (c) Bhojpuri
- (d) Assamese

Answer- (a) Oriya



US-China Dispute

Why in Newspapers?

Recently the Speaker of the US House of Representatives visited Taiwan, the highest level US official to visit the island since 1997. The visit has increased tensions between the US and China.

Quick Issue?

- Taiwan is about 160 km from the coast of southeast China. Far away is an island, opposite the Chinese cities of Fuzhou, Quanzhou and Xiamen.
- China has never recognized its existence as an independent political entity, arguing that Taiwan has always been a Chinese province.
- But there have been economic ties between China and Taiwan. Many Taiwanese expatriates work in China and China has invested in Taiwan.

Historical Background?

- It was administered by the Imperial dynasty, but its control was passed to the Japanese in the year 1895. The island returned to Chinese hands after Japan's defeat in World War II.
- Nationalist Kuomintang Party leader Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan in 1949 after the Communists led by Mao Zedong won the civil war in mainland China. Chiang Kai-shek established the government of the Republic of China on the island and remained president until 1975.

Other Key Facts?

Indian policy towards Taiwan

- India also follows the One China policy and does not have formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan. But it has an office in Taipei for diplomatic work.
- The India-Taipei Association (ITA) is headed by a senior diplomat.
- While Taiwan has Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC) in New Delhi.
- India-Taiwan relations were originally centered on trade, commerce, culture and education.
- In recent days, India has strengthened its relations with Taiwan after China's verbal war in Galwan.
- The Indian government had chosen a diplomat to be its ambassador in Taipei.
- Simultaneously, two MPs of the ruling party attended the swearing-in ceremony of the President of Taiwan through virtual mode.

Importance of Taiwan

- Semiconductors are such an important component that is useful for powering electronics from computers and smartphones to brake sensors in cars.
- The production of chips involves a complex network of firms that design or manufacture them, as well as those who supply the technology.
- Most semiconductors are produced in Taiwan and it dominates the outsourcing of semiconductor manufacturing.
- In addition, its contract manufacturers accounted for more than 60% of total global semiconductor revenue last year.



- The government of the Republic of China (ROC) was transferred to Taiwan after the division of China and Taiwan in the civil war. On the other hand the Communist Party of China (CPC) established the People's Republic of China (PRC) in the mainland.
- Since then, the PRC views Taiwan as a treasonous province and awaits reunification with Taiwan by peaceful means, if possible.
- US policy towards Taiwan:- It has continued the 'One China' policy since the 1970s, under which it sees Taiwan as part of China.
- The 'One China' policy means that nations that wish to have diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC) should sever ties with the Republic of China (ROC) and refer to the ROC as China, not the PRC.
- Under this policy the communist government in mainland China was the legitimate representative and Taiwan was a separate part of it.
- But it also has informal relations with Taiwan. But it also has informal ties with Taiwan and assists Taiwan in protecting the island from external aggression by providing military-equipment and intelligence.
- As China considers Taiwan as part of its territory, it claimed that the visit would seriously undermine China's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- This could seriously affect the foundation of Sino-US relations and send a seriously wrong signal to Taiwan's independence forces.
- According to China, the presence of a senior American figure in Taiwan would indicate US support for Taiwan's independence.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. Which of the following US President visited China in 1972 to strengthen diplomatic relations?

- (a) Richard Nixon (b) George Bush (Sr.)
(c) D. Eisenhower (d) J. F. Kennedy

Answer: (a) Richard Nixon

Que. On whose side did Japan fight in the First World War?

- (a) Not on behalf of anyone, he was neutral.
(b) With Germany against the United Kingdom
(c) Against Russia on its part
(d) With the United Kingdom against Germany

Answer: (d) With United Kingdom against Germany