

Glossary

F – Fijian; H – Hindi; L – Latin

<i>aamaa bivah</i> (H)	a special kind of ceremony related to the mango fruit
<i>aapas ke baat</i> (H)	private matters
<i>adda</i> (H)	gathering place
<i>adharmic</i> (H)	morally inappropriate
<i>agua</i> (H)	leader
<i>ahirwa ke naatch</i> (H)	a special kind of Ahir dance, with a man dressed in women's clothes, performed at festive occasions and at weddings; also <i>lehnga ke naatch</i>
<i>aja</i> (H)	grandfather
<i>angrezi saheb</i> (H)	white men
<i>arkatis</i> (H)	unscrupulous recruiters
Arya Samaj	Noble Society, Indian Hindu reform movement
<i>awa-gawa</i> (H)	come and gone
<i>aya-gaya</i> (H)	came and went
<i>baanar sena</i> (H)	Lord Hanuman's monkey army
<i>babus</i> (H)	clerk, an educated Indian man
<i>badhiya</i> (H)	good
<i>Badi Beemari</i> (H)	Influenza Epidemic of 1918
<i>badmaash</i> (H)	hooligan
<i>badmashi bund</i> (H)	stop this nonsense
<i>bahini</i> (H)	sister

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<i>babut accha</i> (H)	very good
<i>babut badhiya</i> (H)	very nice
<i>baigan</i> (H)	eggplants
<i>bajuband</i> (H)	armlet
<i>bakeda</i> (H)	crab (Labasa word)
<i>baksheesh</i> (H)	freebie
<i>bandar</i> (H)	monkey
<i>barbaadi</i> (H)	harm
<i>belo</i> (H)	guest-receiving house; a traditional storage house for farm implements, fertiliser and weedicide
<i>beta</i> (H)	child
<i>bhajan</i> (H)	devotional songs
<i>bhaji</i> (H)	vegetable
<i>bhaloo</i> (H)	bear
<i>bhandara</i> (H)	feast
<i>bhauji</i> (H)	older sister-in-law
<i>bichwa</i> (H)	toe-ring
<i>biraadri</i> (H)	brotherhood
<i>bure</i> (F)	thatched house
<i>chaachi</i> (H)	aunty
<i>chai</i> (H)	tea
<i>chakka panji</i> (H)	hoi poloi
<i>chamar</i> (H)	tanner, low caste
<i>chandali</i> (H)	stupidity
<i>chaplusi</i> (H)	wanton behaviour
<i>chautals</i> (H)	Holi, or Phagwa, festival songs
<i>chini-pani</i> (H)	sugar has turned to water
<i>chori</i> (H)	thievery
<i>chuttar pani</i> (H)	washing your bum with water after visiting the toilet
<i>Court-Kachebri</i> (H)	law courts, judicial proceedings
<i>dabe</i> (H)	flood (Labasa word)

<i>dada</i> (H)	older uncle, brother
<i>dai</i> (H)	mid-wife
<i>dakua</i> (F)	Fijian hardwood
<i>dalo</i> (F)	taro
<i>damanu</i> (F)	Fijian hardwood
<i>dandtaal</i> (H)	iron rod musical instrument
<i>desh</i> (H)	nation
<i>devtas</i> (H)	gods
<i>dhandha</i> (H)	occupation
<i>dharamshalas</i> (H)	established centre for spiritual instruction
<i>dhibri</i> (H)	wick lamp
<i>dholak</i> (H)	Indian drum
<i>dhoti</i> (H)	a traditional men's garment; a rectangular piece of unstitched cloth, usually around 4.5 m (15 ft) long, wrapped around the waist and the legs and knotted at the waist
<i>dil roye, beta</i> (H)	the heart cries, son
<i>din maro</i> (H)	to shirk work
Fiji-Baat	a mixture of various Indian languages interspersed with English and Fijian words
<i>Finis coronat opus</i> (L)	the end crowns the work
<i>gaand ke andha</i> (H)	blind as an arse
<i>gaar</i> (H)	arse
<i>ganja</i> (H)	marijuana
<i>ganwaar</i> (H)	country bumpkins
<i>gatka</i> (H)	stick fighting game
<i>gau-mata</i> (H)	mother cow
<i>ghar</i> (H)	house
<i>ghoos</i> (H)	bribe
<i>ghoos-khori</i> (H)	corruption
<i>girmit</i> (H)	indenture, from Agreement
<i>girmitiya</i> (H)	indentured immigrant

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<i>gitbit</i> (H)	speaking rapid-fire
<i>gram devtas</i> (H)	village deities
<i>gulgula</i> (H)	Indian sweet
<i>hajam</i> (H)	traditional barber (by caste)
<i>halal</i> (H)	permissible
<i>haram</i> (H)	forbidden
<i>haramil</i> (H)	bastard
<i>hathi</i> (H)	elephant
<i>havans</i> (H)	prayer offerings around fire
<i>hum log</i> (H)	us people
<i>huqqa-pani-bund</i> (H)	social ostracism
<i>iTaukei</i> (H)	Indigenous Fijians
<i>izzat</i> (H)	collective honour
<i>jaanwar</i> (H)	animal
<i>jadu tona</i> (H)	magic, witchcraft
<i>jabajibhai</i> (H)	ship mate, brotherhood of the crossing
<i>jhanjhat</i> (H)	trouble
<i>Jhankar</i> (H)	a weekly film magazine
<i>jhatka</i> (H)	the method of slaughter demanded by many Hindus, Sikhs
<i>jhumka</i> (H)	earring
<i>kab</i> (H)	when
<i>kabarsthaan</i> (H)	graveyard
<i>Kai Idia</i>	Indo-Fijians
<i>Kai Viti</i> (F)	indigenous Fijians
<i>kaitani</i> (F)	foreigners
<i>kaka</i> (H)	uncle, father's younger brothers, cousins
<i>kaki</i> (H)	father's younger brother's wife
<i>kakkus</i> (H)	outhouse
<i>kala pani</i> (H)	dark, dreaded seas
<i>kanganis</i> (H)	middlemen (Ceylon and Malaya)
<i>kasbighar</i> (H)	brothel in the estate lines

<i>kekda</i> (H)	crab, see <i>bakeda</i> (Labasa word)
<i>khabardari</i> (H)	alertness
<i>khuda hafiz</i> (H)	goodbye
<i>khula</i> (H)	freed population
<i>koi bat nahin</i> (H)	don't worry
<i>koros</i> (F)	villages
<i>kul</i> (H)	clan
<i>kulambar</i> (H)	CSR overseer
<i>kurmi</i> (H)	cultivating caste
<i>kurta</i> (H)	traditional Indian shirt
<i>kushti</i> (H)	wrestling
<i>kuti</i> (H)	rudimentary hut for religious gathering
<i>lakdi ke mithai</i> (H)	an Indian sweet made of flour and sugar
<i>lathi</i> (H)	walking stick
<i>lathials</i> (H)	guards
<i>lehnga</i> (H)	long skirt worn by women
<i>lehnga ke naatch</i> (H)	see <i>ahirwa ke naatch</i>
<i>lovo</i> (F)	a banquet cooked in an earth oven
<i>maan maryada</i> (H)	respect
<i>madarasa</i> (H)	Muslim centre for spiritual instruction
<i>mahajans</i> (H)	money lenders
<i>mai</i> (H)	mother
<i>mai-bap</i> (H)	mother/father, parents, benefactors
<i>maistries</i> (H)	middlemen
<i>mami</i> (H)	mother's brother's wife
<i>mandali</i> (H)	village society
<i>mandir</i> (H)	temple
<i>mardaanagi</i> (H)	Indian manhood
<i>masala</i> (H)	fertiliser, also spice
<i>mataqali</i> (F)	Fijian landowning unit
<i>mausi</i> (H)	mother's sister
<i>mircha</i> (H)	chillies

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<i>mohur</i> (H)	single string of gold sovereigns
<i>mulk</i> (H)	homeland
<i>murgi chor</i> (H)	poultry thief, petty person
<i>mutimilelie</i> (H)	may you be mixed with earth
<i>namaste</i> (H)	respectful greeting
<i>narak</i> (H)	hell
<i>nathini</i> (H)	nose-ring
<i>neta log</i> (H)	leaders, community elders
<i>ojha</i> (H)	sorcerer
<i>orhni</i> (H)	shawl worn by Indian women
<i>paal</i> (H)	stitched sacks for mat
<i>pagri</i> (H)	turban
<i>palki-bearers</i> (H)	men who carried people on wheelless vehicles
<i>panchayat</i> (H)	village council
<i>pankah-pullers</i> (H)	fan pullers to keep dignitaries and royalty cool
<i>patoh</i> (H)	daughter-in-law
<i>pawan-bans</i> (H)	children of the wind
<i>Pawan-putra</i> (H)	Son of the wind, Lord Hanuman
<i>payal</i> (H)	anklet
<i>pet khalas</i> (H)	the stomach's gone
<i>pet puja</i> (H)	self-interest
<i>phua</i> (H)	father's sister
<i>poora barbadi</i> (H)	total loss
<i>poora jad pulai</i> (H)	everything
<i>poorbea</i> (H)	eastern
<i>pothis</i> (H)	primary school texts
<i>prashchayat</i> (H)	penance
<i>primus inter pares</i> (L)	first among equals
<i>pujas</i> (H)	devotional prayer offerings
<i>pukka jungali</i> (H)	complete country bumpkin
<i>qassai</i> (H)	butcher
<i>qauwwali</i> (H)	Urdu songs

<i>qoliqoli</i> (F)	foreshore
<i>Ram ki marji</i> (H)	God's wish
<i>Ram-Ram</i> (H)	Hindi words of greeting or farewell
<i>rara</i> (F)	manicured open lawn
<i>rasmo riwaz</i> (H)	our own way of doing things
<i>ratoon</i> (H)	second and subsequent cane crop
<i>sab chalta hai</i> (H)	anything goes
<i>sadhu</i> (H)	holy man
<i>sabeb</i> (H)	master
<i>sala chutia</i> (H)	you arsehole
<i>salwar kamiz</i> (H)	Indian women's dress
<i>samaj rakshak</i> (H)	guardians of the community
<i>Sanatanis</i> (H)	orthodox Hindus
<i>saris</i> (H)	Indian women's dress
<i>satua</i> (H)	type of homemade sweets
<i>shabaash, beta</i> (H)	well done, son
<i>sharif</i> (H)	honourable
<i>sher</i> (H)	lion
<i>shuddh</i> (H)	'proper'
<i>shukriya ji</i> (H)	thank you, sir
<i>sirdar</i> (H)	Indian male foreman
<i>suar ke baccha</i> (H)	son of a pig
<i>sulu</i> (F)	kilt-like garment worn by Fijian men
<i>suluka</i> (F)	rough, handmade cigarettes wrapped in pandanus leaves
<i>sundar</i> (H)	nice
<i>tabua</i> (F)	whale's tooth
<i>tamasha</i> (H)	sideshow
<i>tanoa</i> (F)	kava bowl
<i>tapus</i> (H)	islands
<i>taukei</i> (F)	indigenous Fijian owners of the land
<i>tehsil</i> (H)	subdistrict

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<i>terminat auctor opus</i> (L)	the author finishes his work
<i>terra sacra</i> (L)	sacred earth
<i>tharia</i> (H)	bowl
<i>vanua</i> (F)	land, province
<i>vulagi</i> (F)	foreigner, visitor
<i>yaar</i> (H)	mate
<i>yaqona</i> (F)	kava

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