

# Karnataka - Bengaluru

**Karnataka, known for its rich cultural heritage, has made a remarkable contribution to Indian literature, especially through its Kannada language. Kannada is one of the oldest Dravidian languages, with a literary history spanning more than 1,500 years. The state's poets, authors, and thinkers have not only enriched regional literature but also influenced Indian literary traditions as a whole.**



ದು ನುಡಿಯಲು  
ಲುಮಾಪರಾ ನ  
ನಿಜದಿಂ ಕುರಿತು  
ಯೋಗ ಪರಿಣತ

**The written characters of the language are derived from the Brahmi script which is the parent-script for all modern Indian languages, first popularised all over India through the edicts of Asoka. The earliest form of Kannada script is found in the Halimidi inscription dated 450 A.D. Many of the Badami Chalukyan records in Sanskrit are written in this script. The Kannada script has been changing continuously and the present Kannada script is the result of such evolutionary changes for over 2,000 years. The present script was standardised after the introduction of printing, in which letter forms are mechanically reproduced with unchanging uniformity.**



Kavirajamarga, written or compiled by Srivijaya, the court poet of the Rashtrakuta king Nripatunga (808 - 880 A.D.) is the first available work in Kannada literature. From the 10th century A.D. onwards, Kannada literature witnessed continuous development with various literary forms enriching both the language and literature. Some scholars have identified three stages of growth in Kannada literature as Jaina, Virasaiva and Vaishnava yugas (periods) corresponding to the religions that dominated the history of Karnataka in successive periods.

Another school recognises five stages of development as Heroic and Epic Age, The Age of Religious Propaganda, The Age of Revolt, The Age of Glory and The Age of Revival.



Founded in 2012, as a non-profit trust, the Bangalore Literature Festival has had thirteen successful editions to date with close to 2000 authors and speakers from India and abroad participating through the years. The founders conceptualized the Festival with the guiding principle of making it a flagship annual literature festival rooted in Bengaluru and with global aspirations and to create a compelling space for engaging and thought provoking discussions on literature and life.