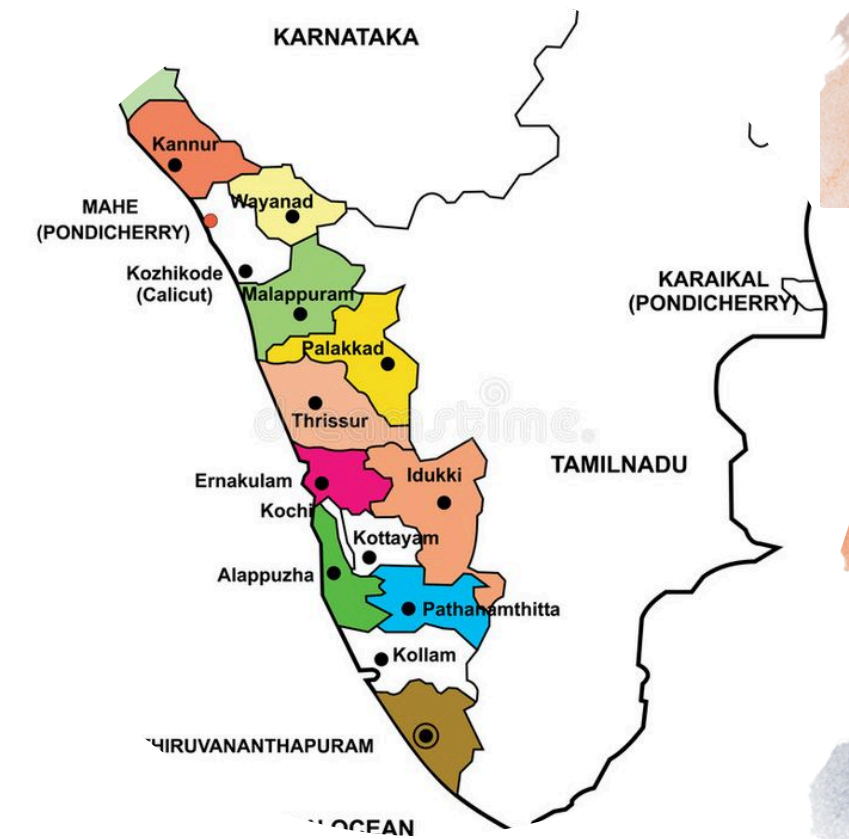


# Kerala - Thiruvananthapuram

Malayalam language, member of the South Dravidian subgroup of the Dravidian language family. Malayalam is the official language of the state of Kerala and the Union territory of Lakshadweep. Malayalam has three important regional dialects and a number of smaller ones. Malayalam has three important regional dialects and a number of smaller ones.



The ancient Malayalam literature had three identical branches. They are: (i) The Pacha-Malayalam stream or Sudha Malayalam (Indigenous Stream); (ii) The Tamil stream, and (iii) the Sanskrit stream. The first stream consisted of folk songs the period of which is difficult to state. Folk songs belonged to the earliest times are fall under the first stream.

Ramacharitham, Thirunizhalmala are the significant works of this branch. Theyyattupattu, Bhadrakalipattu, Sasthampattu, Sarppampattu etc. are the religious songs developed under the movement. Onappatt, Krishippattu, Thiruvathirappattu, Vanchippattu are some of them intended for social and cultural events. Vadakkanpattu and Thekkenpattu are the history of brave and courageous heroes of the past.

**Malayalam literature, known for its rich narrative tradition and strong social commentary, features legendary writers like Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai, and M.T. Vasudevan Nair. Key figures include O.V. Vijayan, S.K. Pottekkatt, and poets Kumaran Asan and O.N.V. Kurup, while modern voices like Benyamin, K.R. Meera, and M. Mukundan continue to shape the literary landscape.**



**Kerala Literature Festival (KLF), founded in 2016, is an annual literary festival held on the beaches of Kozhikode, Kerala, India. The 9th and the latest edition of KLF was held from January 22–25, 2026.**

**Kerala Literature Festival is organized by the DC Kizhakemuri Foundation, a philanthropic organization founded in 2001 as a tribute to late D.C. Kizhakemuri, a freedom fighter, social activist, writer, and publisher.**

#### **KLF 2026**

**The 9th edition of KLF took place from January 22nd to 25th, with Sunita Williams inaugurating the event. The speakers for the year included Jimmy Wales, Abdulrazak Gurnah, Abhijit Banerjee, Shashi Tharoor, Manu S. Pillai, Prakash Raj, Kiran Desai, Romila Thapar among others. Salman Rushdie joined for an online speaker session.**

