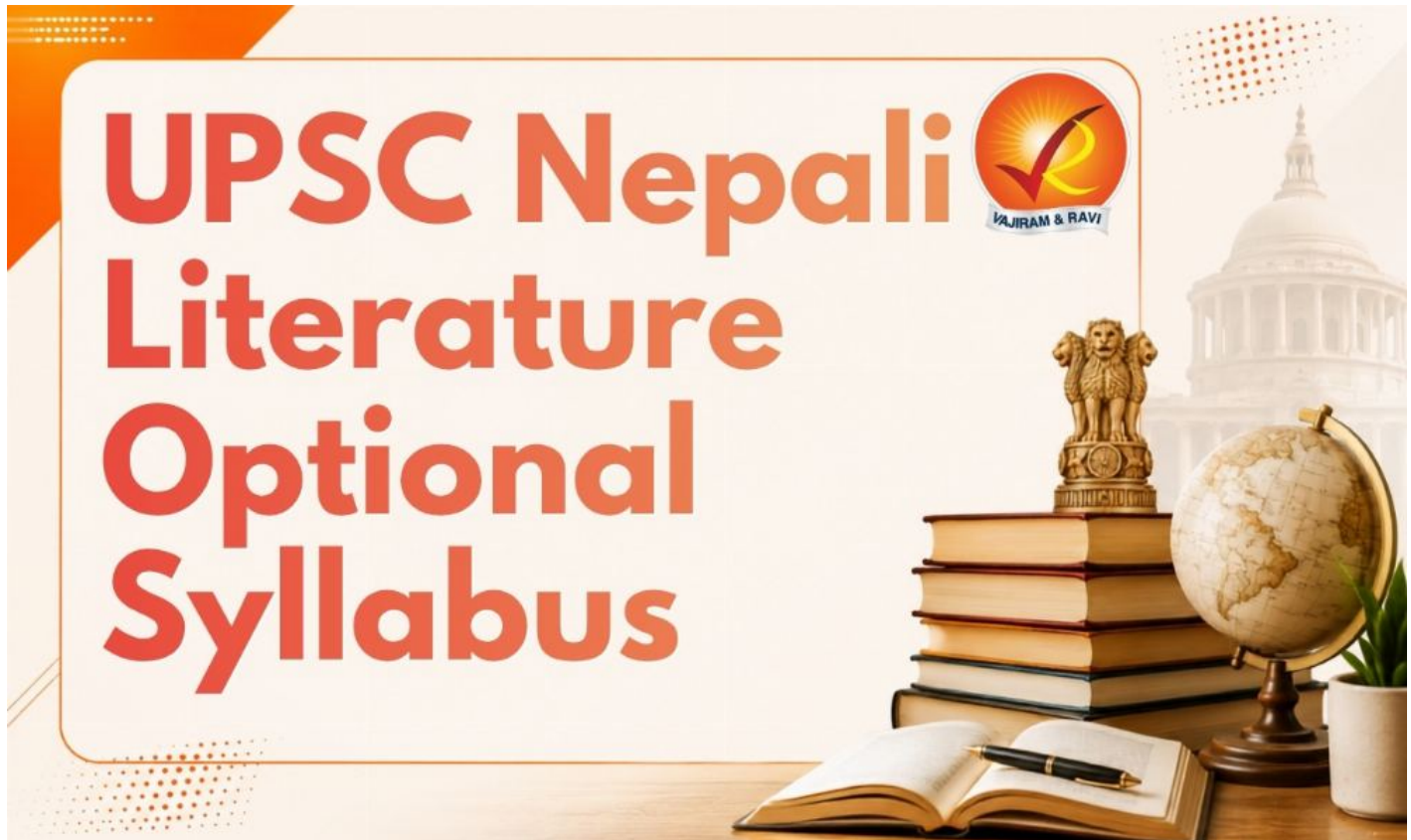


UPSC Nepali Literature Optional Syllabus 2026, Paper 1 & 2 Syllabus

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UPSC Nepali Literature Syllabus evaluates the knowledge of students in Nepali Language and their in-depth understanding of the tradition that it represents. The syllabus is divided into two papers- Paper 1 and Paper 2 both 250 marks each. While paper 1 covers the historical development as well as classical literature in Nepali, Paper 2 covers modern literature along with critical analysis of literary texts. In this article, we are going to cover about UPSC Nepali Literature Optional Syllabus in detail.

UPSC Nepali Literature Optional Syllabus 2026 Overview

The UPSC Nepali Literature Optional Syllabus 2026 is very vast and includes many topics that test the knowledge of Nepali Literature including literary history, prominent authors and important texts. The Nepali Literature Optional Syllabus provides an all-round perspective of the style of literature, change in language and cultural background. This includes basic genres of poetry, prose, drama and literary criticism for the purpose of critically analysing and appreciating the multiple aspects of Nepali Literature from its primary stages of contemporary developments.

Overview of UPSC Nepali Optional Syllabus

Mains Papers	Subject	Marks
Paper VI	Nepali Literature Optional Paper 1	250
Paper VII	Nepali Literature Optional Paper 2	250
TOTAL		500
Time Duration		3 hours

UPSC Nepali Literature Syllabus for Paper 1

Paper I of the UPSC Nepali Literature syllabus adopts a historical and classical perspective of the language and its literary evolution. It begins with the origin and development of the Nepali language, focusing on its historical roots and linguistic features—including phonetics, morphology, and syntax. The syllabus then explores ancient and medieval Nepali literature, highlighting major works and their cultural significance. Students are expected to critically analyse literary contributions by key figures like Bhanubhakta Acharya and Moti Ram Bhatta, examining their themes, narrative styles, and literary techniques.

A section on folk literature—encompassing fairy tales, legends, and folklore—emphasises the reflection of social values and traditions. The syllabus also includes the study of early forms of Nepali prose and poetry, with detailed attention to the role and contributions of pioneering writers and poets.

Nepali Language UPSC Optional Syllabus for Paper 1	
Section	Topics of Nepali UPSC Syllabus
Section-A	
History & Origin	History of the origin and development of Nepali as one of the new Indo-Aryan Languages
Fundamentals of Nepali Grammar and phonology:	Nominal forms and categories: Gender, Number, Case, Adjectives, Pronouns, Avyayas
	Verbal forms and categories: Tense, Aspects, Voice, Roots and Fixes

Nepali Swara and Vyanjana	
Major Dialects of Nepali	Standardisation and Modernisation of Nepali with special reference to language movements (e.g. Halanta Bahiskar, Jharrovad)
Teaching of Nepali language in India	Its history and development with special reference to its socio-cultural aspects
Section-B	
History of Nepali literature	History of Nepali literature with special reference to its development in India
Fundamental concepts and theories of Literature	Kavya/Sahitya, Kavya Prayojan, Literary genres, Shabda Shakti, Rasa, Alankara, Tragedy, Comedy, Aesthetics, Stylistics
Major literary trends and movements	Swachchhandatavad, Yatharthavad, Astitwavad, Ayamik Movement, Contemporary Nepali writings, Postmodernism
Nepali folklores	Sawai, Jhyaurey, Selo, Sangini, Lahari

UPSC Nepali Literature Syllabus for Paper 2

Paper II of the UPSC Nepali Literature syllabus focuses on the modern and contemporary developments in Nepali literature. It encompasses the study of modern poetry, drama, prose, and literary criticism, reflecting the evolution of literary thought and expression in the modern era.

This paper examines the growth of modern Nepali poetry, highlighting major poets and their engagement with contemporary themes, societal issues, and stylistic innovations. The modern Nepali drama segment explores the contributions of significant playwrights and their role in shaping theatrical literature and stagecraft. The syllabus also includes a critical study of modern short stories, novels, and essays, with an emphasis on their narrative techniques, thematic depth, and stylistic experimentation. In the domain of literary criticism, it analyses the perspectives of prominent critics and their application of various literary theories. Further, Paper II addresses emerging literary movements, contemporary trends, and the impact of translations, which have helped broaden the reach and influence of Nepali literature in the global context.

Nepali Language UPSC Optional Syllabus for Paper 2		
Section	Topics of Nepali UPSC Syllabus	
Section-A	Author	Syllabus

Santa Jnandil Das	Udaya Lahari
Lekhnath Poudyal	Tarun Tapasi(Vishrams III, V, VI, XII, XV, XVIII only)
Agam Sing Giri	Jaleko Pratibimba Royeko Pratidhwani (The following Poems only- Prasawako Chichyahatsanga Byunjheko Ek Raat, Chhorolai, Jaleko Pratibimba : Royeko Pratidhwani, Hamro Akashmani Pani Hunchha Ujyalo, Tihar).

Haribhakt Katuwal	Yo Zinadagi Khai Ke Zindagi: (The following poems only- Jeevan: Ek Dristi, Yo Zindagi Khai Ke Zindagi, Akashka Tara Ke Tara, Hamilai Nirdho Nasamjha, Khai Manyata Yahan Atmahutiko Balidan Ko).	
Balkrishna Sama	Prahlad.	
Manbahadur Mukhia	Andhyaroma Branch Nehru (The following One-Act only- Andhyaroma Banchneharu 'Suskeru').	
Section- B	Author	Syllabus
	Indra Sundas	Sahara
	Lilbahadur Chhetri	Brahmaputra ko Chheuchhau

Rupnarayan Sinha	Katha Navaratna (The following stories only—Biteka Kura, Jimmewari Kasko, Dhanamatiko Cinema—Swapna, Vidhwasta Jeevan)
Indrabahadur Rai	Vipana Katipaya (The following stories only—Raatbhari Huri Chalyo, Jayamaya Aphumatra Lekhapani Aipugi, Bhagi, Ghosh Babu, Chhutuaiyo)
Sanu Lama	Katha Sampaad (The following stories only—Swasni Manchhey, Khani Tarma Ekdin, Phurbale Gaun Chhadyo, Asinapo Manchhey)

Laxmi Prasad	Laxmi Nibandha DevkotaSangraha (The following essays only—Sri Ganeshaya Namah, Nepali Sahityako Itihasma Sarvashrestha Purus, Kalpana, Kala Ra Jeevan, Gadha Buddhiman ki Guru?)
Ramkrishna Sharma	Das Gorkha (The following essays only—Kavi, Samaj Ra Sahitya, Sahityama Sapekshata, Sahityik Ruchiko Praudhata, Nepali Sahityako Pragati)

UPSC Nepali Literature Syllabus Books

To prepare for UPSC Nepali Literature Syllabus the following books can be read:

- History of Nepali Literature by Chudamani Bandhu
- Bhanubhakta's Ramayan by Bhanubhakta Acharya

- Manu Madan by Laxmi Prasad Devkota
- Basain by Lil Bahadur Chettri
- Nepali Sahitya ko Itahas by Dr. Taranath Sharma
- Contemporary Nepali Literature by Indra Bahadur Rai

Other Related UPSC Literature Syllabus	
UPSC Assamese Optional Syllabus	UPSC Bengali Literature Syllabus
UPSC Gujarati Literature Optional Syllabus	UPSC Hindi Literature Optional Syllabus
UPSC Maithili Literature Syllabus	UPSC Malayalam Literature Syllabus
UPSC Manipuri Literature Optional Syllabus	UPSC Odia Literature Syllabus
UPSC Punjabi Literature Syllabus	UPSC Telugu Literature Syllabus
UPSC English Literature Syllabus	UPSC English Literature Syllabus

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