Aai
Page 337
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Mother.

aaieyjhavnaya, aaieyjhavnayi
Page 132
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Motherfucker.

Aaj ka Kanoon
Page 923
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “The Law of our Times.”

aaja gufaon mein aa
Page 420
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is a line from a song from the 2001 Hindi film Aks: “Come, come into the cave.” The next line is Aaja gunaah kar le — “Come, commit a sin.”

aampapad
Page 745
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Leaves" of dried mango pulp; these can be stored for a long time and are eaten as a snack.

aane wala pal
Page 894
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Part of a line from a song from the Hindi film Gol Maal (“Fraud,” 1979): “The coming moment…” The full line is “The coming moment will also pass…”

aatya
Page 615
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Aunt. Father’s sister.

Abhi na jao chhhod kar
Page 657
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is a song from the Hindi film Hum Dono (“The Two of Us,” 1961).
The lyrics are:
Abhi na jao chhod kar, ke dil abhi bhara nahin
Abhi abhi to aai ho, bahar ban kar chayi ho.
Hawa zara mahak to le, nazar zara bahak to le
Ye shaam dhal to le zara, ye dil sambhal to le zara...
Main thodi der jee to loon, nashe ke ghont pee to loon
Abhi to kucch kaha nahi, abhi to kucch suha nahi
Abhi na jao...

Which translates into:
Don’t go, don’t leave me, I haven’t yet had my heart’s fill.
You’ve just come, you’ve just settled in like the Spring.
Let the breeze become fragrant, let my eyes be dazzled,
let this evening sink into darkness, let my heart settle a little,
let me live a little, let me drink deep of this intoxication.
Nothing has been said yet, nothing has been heard.
Don’t go, don’t leave me...

ACB
Page 831
Languages: English
Translation: The Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Bombay police. Citizens can complain to the ACB about police corruption. The ACB often uses sting operations to snag corrupt officers.

Achcha
Page 406
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Okay. Yes.

ACP
Page 242
Languages: English
Translation: Assistant Commissioner of Police

addah
Page 853
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The division between two farms, consisting of a low raised embankment of soil.

Adhyapika-ji
Page 176
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A very formal way of addressing a teacher: “Respected teacher.”

adrak
Page 342
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Ginger.

agARBatties
Page 118
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An agarbatti is an incense stick.

aish
Page 539
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Pleasure, fun.

akha
Page 539
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Full, absolute.

akharas
Page 548
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Regiment. (Note that often the same word is also used for a traditional gymnasium.)

almirah
Page 166
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Cupboard.

Ambabai
Page 24
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A goddess especially popular in Maharashtra.

amirs
Page 841
Languages: Urdu
Translation: "Amir" was an aristocratic title given to commanders, governors, or rulers of provinces in pre-Independence India. The usage was especially common in the Mughal empire.

anda
Page 443
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Egg.

angadia
Page 33
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi
Translation: Traditional Indian courier. Angadia companies are often used by diamond merchants, who send their shipments with trusted angadias. Like many traditional Indian services, the angadia system operates solely on trust. See http://www.ibef.org/artdisplay.aspx?cat_id=441&art_id=7636.

*angula*
Page 561
Languages: Sanskrit
Translation: Literally, a finger or a hand. Here, a measure of length.

*antra*
Page 14
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A term from classical music for the introduction to the main body of the song. Note that this is different from the alap, which is not a part of the main body of the song. The antra may be repeated during the song itself.

*API*
Page 0
Languages: English
Translation: Assistant Police Inspector.

*appam*
Page 526
Languages: Malayalam
Translation: A flat, pancake-like dish made from fermented rice. Native to Kerala.

*apradhi*
Page 76
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Criminal, convict.

*apsaras*
Page 16
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit

*arab*
Page 782
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: In the Indian numbering system, equivalent to one billion.

*arabpati*
Page 761
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Someone who posseses one billion rupees.

*Arre chetti kar, dooty par jaana hai*
Page 896
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: This is a Punjabi phrase that would translate roughly into something like, “Hey, hurry up, I have to go to my duty.” The “duty” in question is the speaker’s police shift. In India, putting in a day of work is often referred to as “doing duty.”

*arthi*
Page 214
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Funeral byre on which a person is carried to the burning grounds.

*ashiana*
Page 162
Languages: Urdu
Translation: Literally, “nest.”

*atman*
Page 550
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Soul.

*atta*
attar
Page 776
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Traditional fragrances or perfumes.

Avadhi
Page 153
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Prior to British rule, Avadh (also known as Oude) was a kingdom at the centre of what is now the modern state of Uttar Pradesh. After the British occupation, the area was subsumed into the United Provinces.

Ay
Page 572
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: An exclamation to attract somebody’s attention, “Hey.”

baan
Page 554
Languages: Konkani
Translation: A very large vessel or pot, made out of metal, to store and heat water in.

baap
Page 34
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Father.

baap re
Page 154
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An exclamation, “O my father.”

bai
Page 11
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A respectful title for women, but in Bombay it is often used to refer to maid servants.

badams
Page 814
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Almonds.

badboo
Page 166
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Bad smell.

badmash
Page 491
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A shady character, a bad man.

badshah
Page 113
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Emperor.

babul tree
Page 853
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The Acacia nilotica tree. It can grow from 5 to 20 metres high.

bachcha
Page 56
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Child.

babul tree
Page 776
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Traditional fragrances or perfumes.
as in “the cleaning woman” would be “the bai who sweeps the house.”

**baithak**  
Page 161  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Sitting room.

**baja**  
Page 117  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Musical instrument.

**bajao**  
Page 117  
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi  
Translation: “To play,” and often, “to thump,” as with a drum. So “bajao” is used in the context of music, and it can often be used in the context of violence or sex. To “bajao” somebody (or something) can mean to hit them, or to have vigorous sex with them. It has a similar connotation as “to bang” in American slang.

**bajra**  
Page 732  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Pearl millet, a hardy grain. In India, bajra is often used to make rotis, but it is cheaper than refined wheat flour, and so has traditionally been regarded as a lower-class food. In recent years it has been adopted by health-conscious urbanites as a source of non-fattening carbs.

**Bakr’id**  
Page 146  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: A Muslim festival that commemorates the faith and sacrifice of Hazrat Ibrahim (Abraham), who was asked by the Allah to sacrifice his son. The day is marked by the sacrifice of animals. Outside the subcontinent, the festival is known as Id-ul-Zuha or Id-ul-Azha.

**Bali, Sugreev**  
Page 61  
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit  
Translation: Characters from the *Ramayana*. They are both monkeys, and are brothers. Bali has usurped the monkey kingdom from Sugreev and kidnapped Sugreev’s wife. Rama befriends Sugreev and ambushes Bali and kills him. Sugreev, as ruler of the monkeys, then becomes an ally of Rama’s in the great war against Ravana.

**bambooping**  
Page 535  
Languages: Bombay slang, English  
Translation: From “bamboo,” as in the long, tubular plant. To penetrate, to fuck.

**bandh**  
Page 260  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Literally, “closed.” A closing down of a city or locality, a strike. Often called by a political party, and sometimes enforced with violence.  

**bandhgalla**  
Page 585  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Literally, “closed neck.” Used for any jacket or coat that has a round, closed collar, such as the Nehru jacket.

**bandicoot**  
Page 434  
Languages: English, Hindi  
Translation: The lesser Bandicoot rat (*Bandicota bengalensis*), which is a pest often found in India. They can be quite aggressive when cornered.

**bandobast**  
Page 502  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Practical arrangements, logistics.
**bangda**  
Page 69  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: Mackerel.

**bania**  
Page 190  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Trader, shopkeeper.

**banian**  
Page 24  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Undershirt.

**baniyan**  
Page 307  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Undershirt.

**banyan**  
Page 86  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A tree (*Ficus benghalensis*) that has the ability to grow adventitious roots from its branches. Some of these trees can grow very large, up to several hectares. Because of the abundant shade banyans offer, there is often a banyan tree in village squares. But banyans are also said to be the abode of chudails (witches) and ghosts.

**bar-balas**  
Page 203  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Bar-girls, women who work in bars.

**barood**  
Page 650  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Gunpowder.

**bas**  
Page 64  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Enough, stop.

**Bas khwab itna sa hai**  
Page 215  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: These are lines from a song from the Hindi film *Yes, Boss* (1997):

*Bas khwab itna sa hai*  
*Bas itna sa khwab hai...*  
*shaan se rahoon sada...*  
*Bas itna sa khwab hai...*  
*Haseenayein bhi dil hon khotin,*  
*dil ka ye kamal khile...*  
*Sone ka mahal mile,*  
*barasne lagein heere moti*  

Which translates into:

I have only this little dream  
That I forever live forever in luxury  
That beautiful women lose their hearts  
May this dream of mine flower.  
That I gain a palace of gold,  
that pearls and diamonds fall from the sky.  

**basta**  
Page 167  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Schoolbag.

**basti**  
Page 10  
Languages: Hindi, Marathi  
Translation: Literally “settlement” or “town.” The term is often used for low-income areas or slums.

**Bataa re. Kaad rela.**  
Page 440
Languages: Marathi
Translation: “Tell me. Spill it.”

**batasha**
Page 92
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Drops of candied sugar.

**batata-wada**
Page 235
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A fried snack made from potatoes and chick-pea flour.

**belan**
Page 739
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A rolling pin, often used to make rotis.

**besan**
Page 175
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Chickpea flour.

**beta**
Page 47
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Son.

**bevda**
Page 258
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: A drunk.

**Bhabhi**
Page 18
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A respectful term for one’s brother’s wife.

**bhadvaya**
Page 716
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: A form of “bhadwa,” pimp.

**bhadwa, bhadwe**
Page 32
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Pimp.

**bhadwi**
Page 159
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Feminine form of "bhadwa," pimp. Therefore, "Madam."

**Bhai**
Page 41
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi
Translation: Literally, “brother.” In Bombay it also means “gangster,” meaning a member of an organized crime “company.” “Bhai” is roughly equivalent to the American “made guy.” A Bhai is what a tapori wants to become.

**bhaigiri**
Page 237
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: The act of acting like a bhai.

**bhajan**
Page 107
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A devotional song.

**bhajiyas**
Page 103
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A fried snack.
bhakri
Page 234
Languages: Gujarati, Marathi
Translation: A flat round unleavened bread that has traditionally been eaten by farmers. Common in central and western India.

bhakt
Page 81
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Devotee, follower.

bhang
Page 565
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A derivative of cannabis, made from the leaf and flower of the female plant. Can be smoked, or is used in drinks.

bhangad
Page 236
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Problems, a mess, a mixup.

bhangi
Page 39
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Sweeper.

bhangra
Page 25
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: An energetic and lively dance native to Punjab, and also the music that accompanies this dance. Bhangra music has been modernized and cross-bred with many influences, and is now popular as dance music in clubs around the world.

bhavani
Page 24
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A goddess. She is the fierce aspect of Shakti or Devi, but she is also the giver of life, and “Karunaswaroopini,” the very form of mercy. She was the isht-devi or personal goddess of Shivaji, and is still hugely popular in Maharashtra.

bheja
Page 591
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Brain.

bhelpuri
Page 119
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A spicy snack typical of Bombay. Bhelpuri is often sold from carts on streets and beaches.

bhenschod
Page 13
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Sister-fucker.
bhenji
Page 165
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: A respectful way of addressing one’s older sister: “Respected Sister.”

bhidu
Page 52
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Buddy, pal.

bhindi
Page 163
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Okra. Lady’s Finger.

bhondu
Page 527
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Fool.

bhoosa
Page 783
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Straw and husks of grain, which are broken up or chopped and used as feed for animals.

bhoot
Page 215
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Ghost.

Bhumro bhumro
Page 501
Languages: Kashmiri

bibi
Page 154
Languages: Urdu
Translation: A respectful term of address for a woman. Something like “Miss.”

bidi
Page 62
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Indian cigarette made out of tobacco rolled in a leaf. Bidis are very cheap, and are usually smoked by poor people, or those in rural areas.

bigha
Page 19
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A unit used to measure land. The actual size of the land indicated by the unit varies from region to region, from about a third of an acre to an acre.

biryani
Page 10
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A rice dish, sometimes with meat, and usually very rich. There are several kinds of biryanis.

Bisleri, Bisleri pani
Page 38
Languages: English, Hindi
Translation: Bisleri is one of the companies that makes bottled water. The brand name is often used for any bottled water.

bissi
Page 438
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Bissi is actually free food provided by the jail, and the term also applies to where it is prepared — the kitchen.
**BMC**
Page 247
Languages: English
Translation: Bombay Municipal Organization.

**bola na**
Page 355
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: "I told you..."

**bole to**
Page 724
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Used variously to mean, "You know," or "Kind of like." Or just "Like," in the American teenager sense: "Bole to, I just went to the mall and just everyone was there."

**Bole to voh edkum danger aadmi hai**
Page 233
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: “He’s an absolutely dangerous man.”

**bolo**
Page 488
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Tell,” or “talk.” In this context, the black-marketeer is asking people who want tickets at his price to speak up.

**bombil**
Page 69
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Bombay duck or bummalo, a kind of fish.

**BSES**
Page 403
Languages: English, Marathi
Translation: Brihanmumbai Suburban Electric Supply.

**BSF**
Page 677
Languages: English
Translation: Border Security Force.

**budhau**
Page 470
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An old man, an old coot -- the word “budhau” is a gently patronizing way to talk about someone. “Old timer.”

**budhdha**
Page 420
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Old man.

**bund**
Page 323
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Embankment.

**bundal**
Page 530
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Bad, substandard.

**burfi**
Page 205
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sweet dish made from thickened milk.

**carrom**
Page 117
Languages: English
Translation: A board game, perhaps of subcontinental origin.

CBI
Page 47
Languages: English
Translation: The Criminal Bureau of Investigation. An elite central investigation agency responsible for major criminal and national security matters. The agency often tackles cases which are deemed too important or sensitive for local enforcement agencies. See http://cbi.nic.in/.

chaas
Page 407
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A refreshing drink made from buttermilk.

chaat
Page 215
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Various savoury snacks.

chaavi
Page 204
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Girlfriend.

chabbis
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang

chabutra
Page 839
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A platform, patio.

chacha
Page 85
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Uncle — father’s brother.

chachu
Page 56
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Uncle — father’s brother. This is an affectionate way of saying "Chacha."

Chainya Chainya
Page 498
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film *Dil Se* (“From the Heart,” 1998): “The shadow, in the shadow...”

chakkar
Page 234
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Whirl.

chakravartin
Page 561
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A universal ruler who is also just; a great emperor.

Chala jaata hoon kisi ki
Page 384
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film *Mere Jeevan Sathi* (“My Lifelong Companion,” 1972): “I walk to the rhythm of a certain person...”

chalo
Page 113
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Chalo” can be used in a couple of ways. One meaning is, “Let’s go.” The other is in the sense of “then” in the sentence, “Okay, then, I will see you in Bombay.” So you could say, “All right, chalo, we’ll meet tomorrow morning.”
cham-cham
Page 205
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sweet-dish made from cheese.

champa
Page 678
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The Frangipani tree, which produces fragrant flowers. The flowers are often used in garlands and hair adornments.

champi
Page 444
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Head-rub.

channa
Page 269
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Chickpeas.

chappan-churi
Page 538
Languages: Hindi

chappati
Page 438
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Unleavened bread. A staple food in northern India.

charas
Page 62
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Hashish.

charbi
Page 509
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Fat.

charpai
Page 163
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A traditional cot or bed. Sturdy cloth tape or rope is strung across a wooden frame to make the sleeping surface. Charpais are nowadays used by the poor, or in smaller towns and villages.

chaser-panni
Page 438
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: A chaser-panni, or “kesar-panni,” is a small packet or wrapper which contains some powder — in this case the powder is “brown sugar,” heroin. On the streets, there are other phrases and words for chaser-panni: “Shakkar ki pudi” (twist of sugar), “pudi” (twist), powder, packet, and “namak” (salt).

chashmu
Page 504
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi
Translation: “Chashma” is Hindi for “spectacles.” So “chashmu” is a mocking term for someone who wears spectacles, something like “four eyes.”

chaska
Page 411
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An obsessive liking for something, a taste for it.

chatai
Page 23
Languages: English
Translation: A floor mat, made from fine bamboo or wicker. You can roll them up and store them easily, and they are often used for floor coverings, or to sit on, with pillows.
Synthetic materials are now being used.

**chaunka**
Page 166
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: Kitchen.

**chawl**
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Tenement building. Very often, these are built in a U-shape or in a hollow rectangle, with the tenements facing inward. There are from ten to twenty tenements on each floor, with the cheapest — and most common — consisting of one room. The inhabitants of each floor share common toilets and bathrooms. The inhabitants of a chawl aspire to live in modern flats, but often miss the deep friendships and mutual support they left behind in the chawl.

**cheez**
Page 62
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Thing.

**chela**
Page 81
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Follower, student. A guru has chelas.

**chhass**
Page 830
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A refreshing drink made out of yoghurt.

**chikniya**
Page 31
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: “Chikna” is “smooth,” like a girl’s skin. So, to call a grown man “chikna” or “chikniya” is to say that he too pretty to be a man.

**chillar**
Page 214
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Loose change.

**chimta**
Page 162
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: A pair of tongs.

**chingri macher**
Page 341
Languages: Bengali
Translation: A Bengali preparation of prawns.

**chini bananas**
Page 825
Languages: Hindi, Maithili
Translation: "Chini" is sugar; the reference here is to a small and very sweet variety of banana.

**Chinki**
Page 538
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Chinese.

**chirote**
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A fried sweet-dish made from white flour and sugar.

**chodo**
Page 156
Languages: Hindi
Translation: To fuck.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>chodu</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>Somebody who is fucked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>choklete</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>Chocolate. Code used by the G-Company for dollars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chokra</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, “boy.” Used often for street kids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chole-bature</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
<td>Spicy chickpeas and a bread made from white flour. A Punjabi dish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cholis</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A choli is an Indian blouse, usually worn with a sari or a ghagra (skirt). Cholis are usually tight-fitting, and sometimes the backs are cut out, and the choli is held together by cords or threads. The length of cholis varies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>choola</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Stove.</td>
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<td>chotta</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Chudails. Witches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chulah</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Hearth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chudails</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A long scarf worn by women, usually with a salwar-kameez, or with a ghagra-choli.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
chup
Page 581
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Quiet, be quiet.

churi
Page 587
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Knife. In this context, a sharp one.

churri
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Knife. Used as slang for a beautiful girl by the G-Company.

chut-chattoing
Page 536
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Cunt-licking.

chutiya
Page 17
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Fucker. “Chut” is “cunt.” “Chutiya” is often used as an epithet for somebody stupid. To say, “He is a real chutiya” is like saying, “He is a real moron.”

chutmaari
Page 33
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Fucked-up. Somebody who is an absolute ass.

chweet
Page 366
Languages: English
Translation: Indianization of "sweet" -- an overly cute way of saying it.

CM
Page 278
Languages: English
Translation: “Chief Minister.” A chief minister is the highest elected official in a state in India. At the state level, the CM has a lot of power, and access to him/her is difficult to obtain.

crorepati
Page 761
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Someone who possesses one crore rupees (ten million in the Indian numbering system).

crores
Page 39
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A unit in the traditional Indian numbering system, equivalent to ten million.

cut-to-cut
Page 708
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: To the point, without any wastage or extra work. Probably taken from film and television editing, where "cut-to-cut" is a reference to the traditional AB roll method in which one VCR containing the master edit receives images from several linked machines.

daana
Page 204
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Literally, "nodule" or "grain." Here, a slang term for "clitoris."

daane
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Literally, a daana is a grain or nodule. Bombay slang for bullets.
**dabba-ispies**
Page 22
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Children’s game -- hide and seek, or “I spy.” Hence “ispers.”

**dada**
Page 102
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Tough guy, hoodlum.

It can also be used as a respectful term of address for an older man, "Elder brother."

**dada-pardada**
Page 177
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi

**dak bungalow**
Page 308
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A traveller’s rest house.

**dakoo**
Page 241
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Bandit.

**dana**
Page 204
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Grain, nodule. Used sometimes in a vulgar way for clitoris.

**dandia raas**
Page 234
Languages: Gujarati
Translation: A traditional dance performed in Gujarat; the dancers use colourfully-decorated sticks as they whirl and spin about each other. The sticks (“dandia”) are struck against each other.

**dandi-swami**
Page 256
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "danda" or "dandi" is a mendicant's staff, so a "dandi-swami" is a person who has taken up the staff and become an ascetic. They are not sanyasins or monks; these are ordinary people who enter the third stage of life, vanaprastha ashrama, and still live with other people and engage in prayer and ritual, and live by begging food and alms. Some of them go on to the last stage, sanyas ashrama, and become monks. Most of them die before that.

**daos**
Page 299
Languages: Angami
Translation: A dao is a flat-bladed knife traditionally used by the tribes of Nagaland.

**darbar**
Page 427
Languages: Urdu
Translation: Court.

**darshan**
Page 107
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Literally, a sighting of something, to be able to see someone or something face-to-face. In a religious context, darshan signifies a “seeing” that is touched by the divine. Pilgrims will travel thousands of miles for a darshan of a goddess in a temple, or of a guru. It is in the seeing of the guru, and in being seen by the guru, that the blessing is conveyed.

**dar-ul-harb**
Page 528
Languages: Arabic
Translation: According to orthodox Islamic teaching, a land which is ruled by the laws of Shari'ah is "Dar-ul-Islam," an "Abode-of-Peace." A country or land which is not governed by the Shari'ah of Allah, and does not acknowledge the authority of Muslims through the payment of the Jizyah tax, is "Dar-ul-Harb," the "Abode-of-War." In this view, devout Muslims must attempt to convert Dar-ul-Harb into Dar-ul-Islam; there can be no compromise or co-existence.

Dayavan
Page 690
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, "The Merciful." This is a reference to a 1988 Hindi film, a remake of the Tamil Nayakan.

DCP
Page 70
Languages: English
Translation: Deputy Commissioner of Police.

DDLJ
Page 392
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An abbreviation for Dilwale Dulhaniya Le Jayenge, a 1995 Hindi film that became a massive hit.

deewana
Page 703
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Literally, "madman," a crazy person. Often used as synonymous with "lover."

dehat
Page 782
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The countryside, the rural areas.

dehati
Page 35
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Somebody from the rural areas, a country bumpkin.

desi
Page 47
Languages: Hindi
Translation: From the Sanskrit "des," which means "home" or "nation." Is used to describe anything that is Indian-made, traditional, home-made.

devaa
Page 219
Languages: Marathi
Translation: God, a god.

devar
Page 160
Languages: Hindi
Translation: One's husband's brother. Indian women traditionally have an affectionate relationship with their devars, especially ones who are younger than them.

Devdas
Page 505
Languages: Hindi, Bengali
Translation: The reference is to a very famous fictional character, Devdas. In 1917, the Bengali novelist Sharat Chandra Chatterjee published a novel of the same name, about a man who -- heart-broken in love -- drinks himself to death. The novel has been made into a film several times, most recently in 2002.

DG
Page 8
Languages: English
Translation: Director General (of police).

dhaansu
**dhaba**  
Page 103  
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi  
Translation: A very inexpensive, unpretentious restaurant, often built on the side of a road or a highway and frequented by truck-drivers and travellers.

**dhad-dhad**  
Page 365  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: An onomatopoeia for the sound of gun shots.

**dhakkan**  
Page 267  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Literally, a lid, as in the lid to a box. But is used colloquially as synonymous with "idiot," a simple person.

**dhamaka**  
Page 665  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Explosion.

**dhanda**  
Page 29  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Trade, work.

**Dhanwantri**  
Page 263  
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit  
Translation: The physician of the gods, and the creator of Ayurveda -- he teaches it to Susrutha, the father of Ayurvedic surgery.

---

**dharam**  
Page 542  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Colloquial pronunciation of "dharma."

**Dharamveer**  
Page 503  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A 1977 film directed by the famous Manmohan Desai. The film takes place in a mythical kingdom during some unspecified pre-modern age. The story is deleriously fantastic: it features a samurai, a preternaturally intelligent hawk, a cruel but beautiful princess, and combats in a Roman gladiatorial arena.

**dharma**  
Page 387  
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit  
Translation: Often translated as "proper conduct" or "the right way of living." In a larger sense, the order underlying the universe and the attempt to be in harmony with that order. Religions that treat dharma as a central concern are sometimes referred to as dharmic religions; Hinduism is therefore "Sanatana Dharma," or "Eternal Dharma."

**Dharmatma**  
Page 690  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: "Great man," or "Spiritual Leader."

**dhobi**  
Page 564  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Someone who washes clothes, a washerman.

**dhoti**  
Page 289  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A large rectangular piece of cloth worn by men; it is wrapped around the legs, and
knotted at the waist.

**dhow**
Page 253
Languages: Arabic
Translation: A traditional Arab sailing vessel.

**dhurrie**
Page 155
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An Indian rug.

**diara**
Page 844
Languages: Hindi, Maithili
Translation: In the mid-course of the Ganga, the river loops and meanders in great curves. After floods, the area which is revealed by the retreating waters and where silt has been deposited is known as the "diara." The diara lands are very very fertile and are hugely prized by the local people. Since the river covers and uncovers tracts of land, title is often unclear. Often, people fight and even kill each other over this precious resource.

**dibba**
Page 839
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, "box."

**Didi**
Page 508
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Elder sister" -- a respectful way of addressing a woman, whether she is related to you or not.

**DIG**
Page 199
Languages: English
Translation: Deputy Inspector General (of police).

**Dil Diya Dard Liya**
Page 718
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The title of a Hindi film ("Gave my Heart, Received Pain," 1966).

**Dil To Pagal Tai**
Page 530
Languages: Hindi

**Diwali**
Page 108
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The “festival of lights,” with in North India is celebrated as the Hindu new year. All over India, the festival signifies the victory of good over evil. People wear new clothes, share sweets, decorate their homes with diyas or lamps, and set off firecrackers. Gambling — especially card-playing — is also part of the tradition.

**Diwale Dulhaniya Le Jayenge**
Page 530
Languages: Hindi

**Dilwale**
Page 530
Languages: Hindi

**diya, diyas**
Page 107
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A diya is a traditional lamp — usually, a cotton wick floats in ghee or oil. The body of the lamp is made of clay or metal.

**Djinns**
Page 631
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Djinns are -- in Arabic mythology --
a race of supernatural creatures with extraordinary powers; "djinn" is where English gets its "Genie."

doshas
Page 236
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: According to Ayurvedic medicine, each body has three elemental forces within it: vata, pitta, and kapha. Any radical imbalance in these forces can lead to illness and other problems.

dudh-ki-tanki
Page 215
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Tank (or reservoir) of milk.” Used as a descriptive term for large breasts.

dum
Page 12
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Force, strength.

dupatta
Page 140
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A long scarf worn by women with the salwar-kameez or kurta.

durbar
Page 517
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Court, a royal audience chamber.

dushman
Page 306
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “enemy.” In the Indian army, the word is often used among officers and men when they talk about the foe. “The dushman is positioned along that ridge.”

ekdum
Page 33
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Absolutely.

ekfasi
Page 853
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "One-crop.” That is, land that produces one crop per year.

elaichi
Page 59
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Cardamom.

eve-teasers
Page 200
Languages: English
Translation: An Indian euphemism: men who harass passing women, verbally and often physically.

FA
Page 165
Languages: English
Translation: “FA” stands for “First Arts.” Passing the First Arts examination used to allow candidates to enter a university. (This system and nomenclature are no longer used.)

fachhad
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Messed up, screwed up.

fajr
Page 886
Languages: Urdu
Translation: The first or morning prayer for practising Muslims. “Fajr” is literally “dawn.”
**Falloo**

Page 258
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A sweet dessert drink made from milk, syrup (often rose or saffron), and cornflour vermicelli. Sometimes ice cream and various kinds of nuts are also put into the drink. "Falooda" -- because of the soft vermicelli -- is sometimes used colloquially to imply softness, limpness, as in, "My legs felt like falooda."

**Faltu**

Page 11
Languages: Bombay slang, Gujarati
Translation: Without use or purpose, extra, good for nothing.

**Faqir**

Page 547
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A Sufi holy man, an itinerant. Often credited with supernatural or magical powers.

**Fauji**

Page 719
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Soldier. From "fauj," or army.

**Fida**

Page 539
Languages: Urdu
Translation: Crazy about, in love with.

**Filmi Kaliyan**

Page 202
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Filmi Buds" -- a Hindi film magazine.

**FIR**

Page 207
Languages: English
Translation: "First Information Report" -- this is the written document that is prepared by the police when the news of a cognizable offence first reaches them. Generally, the victim or a person acting on the victim's behalf comes to the police with a complaint involving a cognizable offense, and the policeman on duty draws up the FIR. The FIR can become a very important legal document; it sets the legal process in motion, and is the basis on which the rest of the investigation is conducted. Later, in court, much can depend on what is included (or not included) in the FIR.

**Firangi**

Page 203
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Foreigner. From "Feringhee," Persian for "Frank" or "Frankish."

**Flush**

Page 301
Languages: English

**FSI**

Page 263
Languages: English
Translation: "Floor-Space Index." The ratio of the total floor area of a building to the size of the plot the building occupies. So, an FSI of 2.0 would mean that the total covered area of a building is twice the area of its plot.

**Fultu**

Page 643
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: All-out, extreme, over the top.

**Fundoo**

Page 878
Languages: English
Translation: Short for "fundamentalist."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gaadi</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>Bombay slang, Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, “car” or “vehicle.” Therefore, something you ride.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gaali</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Term of abuse, bad language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gaand</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>Ass, as in posterior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gaandu</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gujarati, Hindi</td>
<td>Ass-fucker. Often used as a synonym for “idiot.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ganda</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Mattress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gadda</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Donkey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gadha</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>Marathi</td>
<td>Gadhab is “donkey” — a fairly friendly term of abuse in Marathi. You might say this to your best friend if he does something stupid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gajra</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A &quot;gajra&quot; is a garland of flowers, often jasmine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gali</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>Lane, alley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gallis</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Lanes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gamcha</td>
<td>855</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A thin cotton cloth, used variously as a scarf, handkerchief, towel, or turban.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gana</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>Hindi, Sanskrit</td>
<td>A category of divine beings who serve Lord Shiva, and his son, Ganesha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gandugiri</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>Being a gaandu, doing something which constitutes gaandu-ness. That is, doing something idiotic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ganga Jamuna</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>This is the title of a Hindi film released in 1961. The film is about two brothers; the older brother, Ganga, is framed for a crime by a zamindar (a hereditary landowner). He becomes a dacoit, but educates his younger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
brother Jamuna in the city. Jamuna becomes a police officer. At the end of the film, Ganga is killed by Jamuna. The title is sometimes spelt as Ganga Jumna. See http://imdb.com/title/tt0054910/.

**Gangotiya**

Page 843
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An ethnic group native to north India. Gangotiyas live, usually, on the banks of the Ganges.

**ganwar**

Page 138
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An uncouth person, a bumpkin.

**gaon**

Page 716
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Village.

**Gar ek baar pyaar kiya to baar baar karna...**

Page 612
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Couplets like this are often painted on the back of trucks, taxis, and auto-rickshaws:

If you’ve loved me once, love me again and again.
If I am late, wait for me.

**garara**

Page 457
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A loose divided skirt.

**garba**

Page 498
Languages: Gujarati
Translation: A traditional Gujarati dance.

**Gata rahe mera dil**

Page 621
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from the Hindi film Guide (1965): "My heart keeps singing..."

**Gata rahe mera dil...Tu hi meri manzil**

Page 14
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film Guide (1965): “My heart sings, and you are my only destination...”

**gazali**

Page 811
Languages: Konkani
Translation: Gossip.

**Geet gaata hoon main**

Page 894
Languages: Hindi

**ghaatan**

Page 538
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: The Western Ghats are a mountain range that run through Maharashtra. Many immigrants from this region have come to Bombay over the past decades, and have frequently taken jobs as labourers and servants. The term “ghaati” has thus come to denote, in a pejorative fashion, someone who is unsophisticated, uneducated, lower-class. “Ghaatan” is a feminine form of the word.

**ghagra-choli**

Page 99
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A loose skirt (ghagra) worn with a closely-cut blouse (choli).
ghanta
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: A big bell. A small bell would be “ghanti.” In Gaitonde’s gang, they use “ghanta” as synonymous with “screwed up” or “messed up” – instead of the usual “fachchad.” In Bombay slang, “ghanta” also means “dick.”

gharala paya rashtrala baya
Page 409
Languages: Marathi
Translation: This is a traditional Marathi saying: “As the foundation is to a house, women are to the nation.” So the implication is that women should be firm, pure, virtuous.

Ghatotkachas
Page 241
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Ghatotkacha is a character in the \( \textit{Mahabharata} \), the son of the Pandava hero Bhima and the Rakshasa maiden Hidimba. Because of his maternal ancestry, Ghatotkacha has many magical powers which he uses in the great war against the Kauravas, at the behest of his father Bhima. He is on the verge of annihilating the Kaurava army when the great hero Karna uses the divine weapon Shakti to injure him fatally. Even as he falls, Ghatotkacha magically makes his body gigantic, so that he crushes thousands of Kaurava soldiers under his torso.

ghavan
Page 383
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A spicy snack made from rice flour.

ghazal
Page 593
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A poetic form which uses rhyming couplets and a refrain.

ghia
Page 340
Languages: French
Translation: The \( \textit{Groupe Islamique Armé} \), or "Armed Islamic Group," an extremist Islamic organization which wants to set up an Islamic state in Algeria.
**gilli-danda**  
Page 841  
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi  
Translation: A street game played with a stick (the "danda") and a small puck (the "gilli"); the players strike the gilli with the danda.

**ginti**  
Page 437  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Count.

**giri (as in "hero-giri")**  
Page 118  
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi  
Translation: To do something, to engage in some activity. So “hero-giri” would be “acting like a hero.”

**gobar**  
Page 834  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Cow dung. It is widely used as fertilizer. Dried cow dung is burnt as fuel. It can also be used as insulation, to line the walls of houses.

**goda masala**  
Page 91  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: A black masala powder especially popular in Maharashtra.

**gooldown**  
Page 33  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A warehouse.

**Godrej**  
Page 18  
Languages:  
Translation: A brand name for a steel cupboard. The company that manufactures these cupboards is part of the famous and very large Godrej Group.

**GOI**  
Page 609  
Languages: English  
Translation: "Government of India."

**golis**  
Page 263  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: “Goli” is derived from “gol,” round. A goli is something small and round, so “golis” are testicles. The other word used for testicles is “gotis,” as in marbles.

**goondas**  
Page 241  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Thugs, hoods.

**goras**  
Page 652  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: "Gora" is literally "fair-complexioned," or "pale." So the word can also be used as a noun, for a white person.

**gosht**  
Page 146  
Languages: Urdu  
Translation: Meat.

**gotra**  
Page 251  
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit  
Translation: Clan or lineage within the Hindu community. Gotras are generally exogamous, with some specific exceptions. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gotras.
grahastha
Page 250
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A householder, someone who is engaged in the second stage of Hindu life, grahastha-ashrama.

gTB Nagar
Page 150
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Guru Tej Bahadur Nagar, an area in Bombay populated by many Sikh and Punjabi immigrants. Sometimes called "Mini-Punjab."

Gudi-Padwa
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: In Maharashra, the day of the new year, which is a celebration of the coming of springtime and the harvest.

Guju behn
Page 497
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi
Translation: Literally, “Gujarati sister.” Gujaratis often use “behn” – sister – as a respectful form of address, so “Guju behn” has become a slightly mocking way to refer to someone who is typically Gujarati.

gulal
Page 112
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Brightly coloured powder, used especially during the Holi festival. People smear gulal in various shades on each other, or throw it into the air. Gulal has traditionally been manufactured from herbs and natural substances; in recent years chemical dyes have been used.

gulmohar trees
Page 193
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Royal Poinciana trees (Delonix regia). Gulmohar trees have bright red or orange flowers. Also known as the "Flame of the Forest."

gur
Page 55
Languages: Hindi

Guru Gobind Singh
Page 5
Languages: Hindi

gurudwara
Page 196
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A Sikh place of worship.

haan
Page 62
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Yes."

hadiths
Page 631
Languages: Arabic, Urdu
Translation: Traditions about the life, words, and deeds of the Prophet Muhammed.

hafta
Page 110
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hain</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, &quot;week.&quot; Colloquially is used for the weekly protection money paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>to gangsters or police.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haldi</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>“Yes?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>halwai</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A vendor of sweets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamari Dharti, Unki Dharti</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>“Our Earth, Their Earth.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>handi</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A round pot-like vessel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haraamkhor</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>Somebody who lives on illicit earnings; a thief; an embezzeler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haramkori</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Profiting by unfair or illegal means; thievery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haramzadas</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>Bastards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmandir Sahib</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
<td>The Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest of holies for the Sikh people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Guru Arjan installed the first copy of the Guru Granth Sahib here in 1604.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sikh pilgrims from all over the world travel to the Golden Temple to bathe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>in the lake that surrounds the temple and to listen to readings from the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>scriptures. The dip in the waters is known as “dukh bhanjan,” and is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>believed to banish illness and sorrow. See <a href="http://www.harmandirsahib.com/">http://www.harmandirsahib.com/</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hathiyar</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Weapon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hatke</td>
<td>643</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Different, not ordinary, not run-of-the-mill. In the Bombay film industry,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>people use this word to describe their film projects, implying that the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>films are quirky and non-formulaic and risk-taking. The use of “hatke” has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>become something of a cliche in its own right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>havaldars</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Constables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>harami</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Bastard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**haveli**  
Page 485  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A large private residence, a mansion.

**He, chand taaron ne suna...**  
Page 595  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: These, and the lines on the previous page ("Tu kahan yeh bataa...") are from the Hindi film *Tere Ghar ke Saamne* ("In Front of your House," 1963): “Oh, the moon and stars heard it, these beautiful landscapes heard it, passersby heard the song of my pain.”

**hera-pheri**  
Page 77  
Languages: Bombay slang  
Translation: Trickery, crafty deception.

**hijaab**  
Page 878  
Languages: Arabic, Urdu  
Translation: The "modest covering of the body and head worn by Muslim women."

**hijra**  
Page 364  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Eunuch.

**HMT**  
Page 317  
Languages: English  
Translation: Hindustan Machine Tools, a manufacturing company set up by the Indian government. HMT started with machine tools, and later diversified into various fields, including watches.

**hool**  
Page 536  
Languages: Bombay slang  
Translation: A deception, a bluff.

**huggoing**  
Page 772  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Shitting.

**hum**  
Page 636  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: “We.”

**Hum Apke Hain Kaun**  
Page 530  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: "Who am I to You?" -- a Hindi film released in 1994. It was a huge hit.

**humara pata**  
Page 636  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: "Our address"-- this is a very formal way of speaking. The plural "our" is formal, not literal.

**hungama**  
Page 757  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Commotion, noise.

**IAS**  
Page 322  
Languages: English  
Translation: Indian Administrative Service. The IAS is the key country-wide civil service.

**IB**  
Page 80  
Languages: English  
Translation: Intelligence Bureau — the domestic
intelligence agency of the Indian government. It is said to be the world’s oldest intelligence agency.

**idlis**  
Page 559  
Languages: Tamil  
Translation: An idli is made from steamed batter consisting of pulses and rice; it looks like a white, very light patty. Often eaten in the morning or as a snack.

**Iftekar**  
Page 112  
Languages:  
Translation: A well-known character actor who often played a police officer in Hindi films.

**IG**  
Page 832  
Languages: English  

**IIIA**  
Page 714  
Languages: English  
Translation: A measure of the protection offered by body armour. Level IV protection is considered the highest. A IIIA vest should stop bullets from a 9mm submachinegun.

**ikka**  
Page 838  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Horse cart or carriage.

**inter**  
Page 177  
Languages: English  
Translation: Short for “intermediate.” Refers to the intermediate examination, which was taken after secondary and higher secondary education (eleven or twelve years).

**IPO**  
Page 536  
Languages: English  
Translation: "Initial Public Offering," the first sale of a corporation's common shares.

**IPS**  
Page 832  
Languages: English  
Translation: Indian Police Service.

**Ishq, pyaar, muhabbat**  
Page 703  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: "Love, love, love." The three words are synonymous.

**ISI**  
Page 296  
Languages: English  
Translation: Inter-Services Intelligence, the largest and most powerful of Pakistan's intelligence agencies.

**izzat**  
Page 206  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Honour, respect.

**jaan**  
Page 353  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Literally, "life." Often used in the sense of "darling" or "dear," as in "my life."

**jaat**  
Page 454  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Caste.
**jab tak hai jaan jaan-e jahaan**

Page 108
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Part of a line from a song from the famous film *Sholay* (“Embers,” 1975). “Until I have life, O life of the world…” The rest of the line is, “…I will dance.”

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**Jai**

Page 43
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Victory to...”

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**Jai Hind**

Page 294
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Victory to India." A patriotic slogan, often chanted at public gatherings.

---

**JAK Light Infantry**

Page 892
Languages: English

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**jalebis**

Page 196
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sweet made from syrup-soaked batter which is deep-fried. Very typical of north India.

---

**jaljira**

Page 429
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A spicy drink made from mint leaves and ginger.

---

**jamun**

Page 181
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An astringent fruit, crimson-black when it is ripe; jamuns grow on an evergreen tropical tree.

---

**Jana Sanghi**

Page 474
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Somebody who belonged to the Jana Sangha, a political party that in 1980 was succeeded by the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). The Jana Sanghi's activists and leaders often came from the right-wing Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). A Jana Sanghi therefore usually had right-of-centre or conservative politics.

---

**janampatri**

Page 251
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Birthchart, usually drawn up by an astrologer. The more traditional ones are long scrolls of paper covered with charts and symbols, and can be quite beautiful. Nowadays they are often produced on a computer.

---

**Japji Sahib**

Page 189
Languages: 
Translation: The Japji Sahib is a set of verses very holy to the Sikhs, and is recited every morning by the devout. "Jap" is "to chant," and so the collective name for these specific verses refers to their recital.

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**jari**

Page 497
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Embroidery with gold and silver threads.

---

**jatas**

Page 548
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Long matted hair, as in dreadlocks.
**Jawans**
Page 301
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, "young man" or "youth," but used as synonymous with "soldier." "Jawan" is the Indian equivalent of the American "GI."

**Jehadi**
Page 542
Languages: Arabic, Urdu
Translation: Someone who participates in jehad, which literally means "striving in the way of Allah." Often, the word "jehad" is used to describe military conflict against the enemies of the faith, but that is only a limited and partial meaning of the word.

**Jhadoon**
Page 388
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Broom.

**Jhadoon-katka**
Page 91
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Sweeping and mopping.

**Jhakaas**
Page 218
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Excellent, fine, top-class, kick-ass.

**Jhakass**
Page 488
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Excellent, great.

**Jhalli**
Page 165
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: "Crazy girl" — can be used affectionately.

**Jhamaora**
Page 491
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Clown.

**Jhanjhat**
Page 11
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Bother, nuisance.

**Jhatak-matak**
Page 393
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Fireworks and movement, flash and slinkiness. Often used to refer to a woman who is flashy and sexy.

**Jhav**
Page 132
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Fuck.

**Jhinga**
Page 752
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Prawns.

**Jholas**
Page 824
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "jhol" is a bag, usually one with a strap that can be worn over the shoulder.

**Jhopadpatti**
Page 123
ji
Page 5
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A suffix denoting respect for the person being addressed.

jite raho
Page 84
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Live long.”

JNU
Page 292
Languages: English
Translation: Jawaharlal Nehru University.

jooda
Page 696
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Hair worn in a bun.

juhi
Page 678
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A variety of jasmine.

junglees
Page 301
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Savages.

jyotishi
Page 552
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Astrologer.

kaande
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Onions.

kachcha lanes
Page 637
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Unpaved lanes. "Kachcha" is unfinished, impermanent -- the opposite of "pucca."

kachchas
Page 893
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Underwear (resembling boxer shorts).

kachoris
Page 843
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A savoury snack made from flour, lentils, gram flour, and spices. Often sold on the streets.

kadi
Page 622
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Yoghurt curry.

kafila
Page 186
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Caravan, procession, group of travellers.

kafirs
Page 542
Languages: Arabic, Urdu
Translation: Infidels, unbelievers. "Kafir" is a derogatory term for non-Muslims.
Kahin beetein na ye raatein, kahin beetein na ye din
Page 621
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film Guide (1965): "May these nights never pass, may these days never vanish..."

Kahin beetein na ye raatein...
Page 621
Languages: Hindi
Translation: These lines are from a song from the Hindi film Guide (1965): “May these nights never end, may these days never end...”

kajus
Page 386
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Cashewnuts.

kaka
Page 234
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Uncle, usually one's father's brother.

kakori kabab
Page 295
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A particularly soft and delicious variety of kababs from Lucknow. This recipe was created in pre-Independence India by a cook from Kakori, a small village on the outskirts of Lucknow.

Kaku
Page 334
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: An affectionate form of "Kaka" or "Uncle," usually one's father's brother.

kalazar
Page 864
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Visceral leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease also known as "Black fever" or "Dum-Dum fever." Only malaria kills more people.

Kalias
Page 438
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Black people in general, either African or American African. “Kala” is Hindi for “black,” so “kalia” (singular) is a derivation. This is slang, and it is quite derogatory.

kaliyug
Page 431
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: The "Age of Kali" or the "Age of Darkness." The fourth and last of the yugas that pass in the eternal cycle of existence. The Kaliyuga is the most degenerate and morally lacking of the four periods, and ends with pralaya, the great destruction.

kameez
Page 166
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A loose upper garment, like a shirt or blouse, that is worn with the loose trousers known as salwars.

kanche, kanchas
Page 112
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A kancha is a marble.

kanjoos
Page 164
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Miser.

kanpatti
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: The area on one's head just in front of the ears.

**kanya**
Page 507
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Young woman.

**kapda**
Page 241
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Cloth, clothing.

**kara**
Page 154
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A steel bangle worn by Sikhs on the arm. The wearing of a kara is one of the five articles of faith enjoined upon all Sikhs.

**karak**
Page 819
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Strong, so "karak chai" is "strong tea."

**karamchari**
Page 854
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is a general term for clerk or office worker. It’s often used as a designation for workers in government offices — which means that the general public dreads dealing with karamcharis.

**karhai**
Page 103
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A cast-iron pan that is often used for frying. Looks something like a Chinese wok.

**karo**
Page 203
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A verb — to do something.

**kartiya**
Page 401
Languages: Marathi
Translation: An affectionate Marathi term for “crazy guy.” You’d use it with a friend or a relative.

**Kasam**
Page 533
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A vow. Sometimes is used in the sense of, "I give you my word."

**kasht karein**
Page 636
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Please take the trouble to…” A very formal way of asking someone to do something.

**katchha**
Page 103
Languages: Hindi
Translation: See “pucca.”

**katha**
Page 256
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Story, the telling of a story.

**kattha**
Page 838
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A measure of land equivalent to 0.3 hectares.
**kattu**
Page 259
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: A derogatory term for a Muslim man; means something like "a man who has been cut." The reference is to circumcision.

**Kaun Banega Crorepati?**
Page 351
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “Who Will Become a Multi-millionaire?” This is the hugely successful quiz show that millions watch all over India. See http://kbc2.indya.com/.

**Ke kitni muhabbat hai tumse, to paas aake to dekho**
Page 657
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film *Kasoor* (“Crime,” 2001): “To know how much I love you, come close and look.”

**Kedda**
Page 75
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “worm.” Used colloquially to mean an inexplicable stubborness about something, a deeply-held quirk tending toward obsession.

**Kelvan**
Page 333
Languages: Marathi
Translation: This is one of the wedding rituals in Maharashtra: the bride’s last meal as a maiden in her parents’ house. The parents and families of both bride and groom participate, as well as relatives and friends.

**Kesar**
Page 166
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Saffron.

**KG**
Page 128
Languages: English
Translation: Kindergarten.

**Khaala-jaan**
Page 880
Languages: Urdu
Translation: "Dear Aunt." "Khaala" is usually one's maternal aunt.

**Khabari**
Page 22
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Informer. “Khabar” is “news.”

**Khadda**
Page 204
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “hole” or “pit.” Used sometimes as vulgar slang for the vagina.

**Khadi-kurta**
Page 230
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A khadi kurta is a loose shirt made out of homespun khadi cloth. When Gaitonde refers to “khadi-kurta bastards,” he is referring to politicians, who tend to wear such clothes as symbols of their commitment to simple living.

**Khajoor**
Page 838
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Dates.

**Khalsa**
Page 586
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: "Khalsa” refers to all Sikhs who have taken part in the Amrit Sanchar initiation ceremony. The Khalsa must carry the five symbols of the Sikh faith, and live his life...
according to the teachings of the Gurus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khari lassi</th>
<th>Page 168</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: Salty lassi.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khata-khat</th>
<th>Page 96</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: Fast, efficient. This is perhaps an onomatopoeia for the sound a machine makes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khatara</th>
<th>Page 35</th>
<th>Languages: Bombay slang</th>
<th>Translation: A decrepit wreck.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khattam shud</th>
<th>Page 756</th>
<th>Languages: Urdu</th>
<th>Translation: &quot;Completely finished.&quot; Often used in the sense of &quot;The End.&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khattia</th>
<th>Page 841</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: A “khattia” or “khat” is a simple bed. The wooden frame is wound around with rope or flat ribbons, on which sometimes a mattress is laid. Khats are nowadays usually seen in rural areas. The English word “cot” comes from “khat.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>kheer</th>
<th>Page 172</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: A sweet dish made from rice, milk, and sugar.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khichdi</th>
<th>Page 270</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: A dish made with rice and lentils. Often, other ingredients are tossed in, and so the word has also come to denote a mish-mash or mixture. Khichri is thought of as a comfort food, and is often served to people recovering from illness.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khiladi</th>
<th>Page 430</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: Player.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khilte hain gul yahaan, khilake bikharane ko, milte hain dil yahaan, milke bichhadne ko</th>
<th>Page 446</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi</th>
<th>Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film <em>Sharmilee</em> (&quot;The Shy One,&quot; 1971): “Flowers bloom here, only to fall. Hearts meet here, only to be sundered.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khima</th>
<th>Page 18</th>
<th>Languages: Hindi, Urdu</th>
<th>Translation: Ground meat dish, usually prepared with mutton. Can be quite spicy.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khiskela</th>
<th>Page 150</th>
<th>Languages: Bombay slang</th>
<th>Translation: Crazy, off. Literally, “moved” or “shifted.” So someone whose brain has shifted, is not in its right place, is “khiskela.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khoka</th>
<th>Page 518</th>
<th>Languages: Bombay slang</th>
<th>Translation: One crore (ten million) rupees.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>kholi</th>
<th>Page 23</th>
<th>Languages: Marathi</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Translation: A room. So someone who lives in a kholi probably lives in a one-room house.

**khoon**
Page 182
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Murder.

**khuds**
Page 399
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Holes, pits.

**khwab**
Page 215
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Dream.

**khwab ho tum ya koi haqiqat, kaun ho tum batalaao**
Page 446
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film *Teen Deviyaan* ("Three Ladies," 1965): “Are you a dream or reality? Tell me who you are.”

**kidi kada**
Page 178
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: A game played by children; a stone is used within a boundary drawn on the ground. Also known as "shatapoo."

**kirpan**
Page 188
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: A dagger or sword worn by all Sikhs. This is one of the five practises or observances enjoined upon Sikhs.

**kirtan**
Page 196
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A hymn.

**kismet**
Page 226
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Fate, luck.

**koel**
Page 468
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A songbird (*Eudynamys scolopacea*) found on the subcontinent.

**koi hai?**
Page 783
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Is anybody there?"

**kokum**
Page 811
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A sour spice often used in Maharashtrian dishes.

**kos**
Page 574
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An indigenous measure of distance; the actual distance varies regionally. The usual estimate given is about two miles. But, according to Hobson-Jobson, "The kos as laid down in the Ain... was of 5000 gaz... The official decision of the British Government has assigned the length of Akbar's Ilahi gaz as 33 inches, and this would make Akbar's kos= 2 m. 4 f. 183 1/3 yards. Actual measurement of road distances between 5 pair of Akbar's kos-minars, near Delhi, gave a mean of 2 m. 4 f. 158 yards. In the greater part of the Bengal Presidency the estimated kos is about 2 miles, but it is much less as you approach the N.W. In the upper part of the Doab, it is, with fair accuracy, 1 1/4 miles. In Bundelkhand again it is nearly 3 m. (Carnegy), or, according to Beames, even 4 m. In Madras it is 2 1/4 m., and
in Mysore the Sultani kos is about 4 m."

**kshatriya**
Page 15
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: One of the four varnas of the Hindu caste system. The kshatriyas were the warrior caste, and regarded as one of the higher castes.

**kulfi**
Page 94
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Indian ice cream made from boiled milk.

**kulhadi**
Page 864
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Axe, hatchet.

**Kumbh**
Page 572
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The Kumbh mela or festival takes place four times every twelve years; every three years it rotates between Prayag (Allahbad), Ujjain, Haridwar, and Nashik. Every twelve years the Maha Kumbh mela, the Great Kumbh, takes place at Prayag; millions of pilgrims come from all over India and beyond to the festival. The Great Kumbh melas are the largest human gatherings on the planet.

**Kumbhkaran**
Page 39
Languages:
Translation: One of the brothers of Ravana, the antagonist in the Ramayana. Kumbhkaran — through a boon granted by Brahma — slept for six months at a time, waking only to eat vast quantities of food.

**kumkum**
Page 572
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A powder used to make the auspicious mark on one's forehead.

**kurta**
Page 23
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Punjabi
Translation: Loose shirt worn by both men and women.

**kutia**
Page 407
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Bitch.

**kutti**
Page 361
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Bitch.

**kya**
Page 98
Languages: Hindi
Translation: What

**Kya se kya ho gaya**
Page 98
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The lyrics of a song from a fictional Hindi film: “Look what has happened as we watch. My heart has fallen in love with you as we watch.”

**laat-saab**
Page 164
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A very high sahib, a very important and imposing personage. "Laat" may be an Indian corruption of "Lord"; the phrase was most often used for Englishmen. In post-Independence India it was often used to describe very Anglicized Indians.
**laddoo**
Page 119
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sweet dish; laddoos can be made from various substances, but they are always round.

**ladhi**
Page 114
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This refers to firecrackers — a “ladhi” is a string of crackers, and can be very long.

**lafangas**
Page 675
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "lafanga" is an uncouth, ill-mannered person, usually a young man. Lafangas are to be found loafing on street corners or in bazaars, smoking, gossiping, eating paan; parents whose son spends too much time in these pursuits fear their young man is turning into a lafanga.

**lakh, lakhs**
Page 10
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A unit in the traditional Indian numbering system, equivalent to a hundred thousand.

**lallu**
Page 522
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Weakling, a soft or ineffective person.

**lalinen**
Page 112
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Lantern.

**lambhi**
Page 442
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: “Lambi” is literally “long.” But in jail, a “lambhi” is a knife or dagger, which is long in comparison to razor blades, the other weapon of choice. A lambi can be engineered from a door hinge or other such piece of metal.

The word is also used to refer to a sword.

**lance-naik**
Page 292
Languages: English, Hindi
Translation: A rank in the Indian army, equivalent to lance-corporal in the British army. The next senior rank is naik.

**landyas**
Page 231
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: A very derogatory term for Muslims.

**langda-lulla**
Page 225
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Crippled.

**langotiya yaar**
Page 452
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "langot" is traditional Indian underwear. Children often run around only wearing langots. So, a "langotiya yaar" is a friend from the days you both wore only langots. A more recent version of the same idea is "chaddi friend" -- "chaddis" are shorts.

**lassi**
Page 112
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A refreshing drink made from blended yogurt, water, and spices. Lassis can be either sweet or salty.

**Lat pat lat pat tujha chalana mothia nakhriyacha**

Page 69
Languages: Marathi
Translation: This is a line from an old Marathi Laavani or folk song, which has also been sung in a film. The sense is a bit hard to translate; it probably loses something in the change to English. The line is addressed to a woman. “Lat pat lat pat” is an onomatopoeia referring to how she walks, the swing of her hips. So the line is something like, “You walk with such airs, such style.” The last word in the fragment, “nakhriyacha,” is a form of “nakhra,” usually translated as “feminine airs or blandishments; affectation; coquetry; flirting.”

**lata-pata**

Page 256
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Grass and hay, what you feed animals.

**lathait**

Page 296
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Someone who uses a lathi, a wooden staff. A lathait is usually a hired tough guy.

**lathi**

Page 6
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi

**lau da lasoon**

Page 647
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: "Lau da" is cock, "lasoon" is garlic. Usually the phrase is used dismissively as synonymous with “etcetera, etcetera” or something that is inconsequential. As in, “The government is doing lauda lasoon about traffic problems in Bombay.” Gaitonde is being creative in his use of the slang; he speaks of someone getting his cock “etcetared,” as in a blow-job. His men, as they often do, follow him in this usage.

**leechies**

Page 168
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A small red fruit -- the outer skin is inedible; the inner layer is translucent white and sweet.

**leela**

Page 40
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Play, the universe as the divine play of the Lord.

**LLB**

Page 294
Languages: Latin
Translation: "Legum Baccalaureus,” Latin for Bachelor of Laws. The principal academic degree in law.

**lodu**

Page 31
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A prick.

**Loksatta**

Page 67
Loksatta is a Marathi newspaper in Bombay, with branches in Nagpur, Pune, and Ahmednagar.

London mein fielding lagao. Do team bhedzjo, Sachin aur Saurav dono. Ready rehna, instructions baad mein
Page 543
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Gaitonde is speaking in code here: "Set up fielding in London. Send two teams, Sachin and Saurav both. Stay ready, instructions will be sent later." So he wants his subordinates to get ready for action in London; fielding -- as in cricket -- refers to getting people in place. "Sachin" and "Saurav" are code names for two of his own men; he's using the names of two very famous cricketers, Sachin Tendulkar and Saurav Ganguly.

Ludo
Page 438
Languages: English
Translation: A simple board game for two to four players.

Lund
Page 647
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Cock, penis.

Lungi
Page 35
Languages: Tamil
Translation: A garment for men which consists of a single piece of cloth wrapped around the waist and legs, like a sarong.

Lurkao
Page 223
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “to tumble,” or to “throw over.” Therefore, to kill.

Maal
Page 204
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Literally, "stuff" or "material." Used in an objectifying manner about women.

Macchi
Page 622
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Fish.

Maderchod
Page 19
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Motherfucker, motherfucking.

Maderpat
Page 427
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Motherfucker.

Madressa
Page 683
Languages: Arabic, Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A school. In English usage, usually refers to a Sunni religious school.

Maghai
Page 111
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A variety of leaf used in the making of sweet paan.

Maha
Page 629
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This prefix usually means "great" or "big."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maharaja</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>King.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharani</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Queen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maharathi</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A great warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mahatma</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, &quot;great soul.&quot; A wise man, a great man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mahurats</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A mahurat is a time particularly auspicious for the beginning of a specific activity, or for a particular ritual or occasion. A pandit is consulted to obtain the time for a mahurat; the pandit examines the patron's horoscope and takes into account the positioning of the sun and planets, and also the intent and nature of the planned activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mai re</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>An exclamation, “O mother!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maidan</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>An open field, park, or square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maike</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A married woman's parental home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main zindagi ka saath nibhaata chala gaya</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>This is a line from the Hindi film <em>Hum Dono</em> (“The Two of Us,” 1961): “I went along, keeping my faith with life…”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majnoo</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>Arabic, Urdu</td>
<td>This is a reference to an old folktale that is popular all over South Asia and the mid-East, the story of Laila and Majnoo. “Majnoo” means “mad” in Arabic. This is the name given to a well-born young man named Qais, who is separated from his beloved Laila by her father, who wants to marry her to someone else. Qais, in despair, leaves home and wanders in the desert, hungry and ragged, and for his frenzy and ecstatic love is called “Majnoo” by the people. He eventually dies of starvation, still bereft. Laila kills herself on the day of her wedding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>makaan</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>House, home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>makkai</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Corn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Page</td>
<td>Language(s)</td>
<td>Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mala badol</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>Wedding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malai</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Cream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malang baba</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>Translation: A malang is a holy man thought to be touched by the hand of Allah. A &quot;malang baba&quot; is therefore an older malang monk or fakir. Some malangs describe themselves as belonging to the Sufi tradition, although this is not always the case. Malangs are sometimes recognizable by their clothing: a long robe; many beaded necklaces and chains; a wooden or metal bowl. Malangs often claim victory over supernatural beings, and are said to be able to control spirits or exorcize them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malik</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Master, owner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mamoo</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>Bombay slang, Marathi</td>
<td>Fool, idiot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamta</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hindi, Sanskrit</td>
<td>Translation: Literally, “mother’s love.” Often used as a proper name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manu</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Gujarati, Hindi</td>
<td>Translation: An affectionate way of saying “Mama,” uncle (mother’s brother, that is).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man ja ay khuda, itni si hai dua</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Translation: These are lines from a song from the Hindi film <em>Yes, Boss</em> (1997): “Listen to me, God, grant me only this little wish…” See <a href="http://imdb.com/title/tt0120540/">http://imdb.com/title/tt0120540/</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandap</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Translation: A wedding canopy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandvali</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>Translation: A negotiation, settlement, or compromise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mantri</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**manuvadi**  
Page 549  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Manu was the author of the text *Manusmriti*, from which orthodox Hinduism draws many of its laws and practises, including the persecution and exploitation of the lower castes. A “manuvadi” is follower of Manu, which is to say someone from the upper castes.

**marad sala aisaich hota hai**  
Page 203  
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi  
Translation: She’s saying, in typical Bombay Hindi, “Bastard men are like this.”

**Maratha**  
Page 14  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: A group of Marathi-speaking castes from Maharashtra. They have traditionally been warriors and cultivators.

**Marwari**  
Page 95  
Languages: Hindi, Marwari  
Translation: Someone from Marwar, a region in Rajasthan. Marwaris — stereotypically — are known as sharp traders.

**masala**  
Page 33  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Spice.

**mashooq**  
Page 243  
Languages: Urdu  
Translation: Lover.

**masjid**  
Page 363  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Mosque.

**masnad**  
Page 173  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Cushion.

**masst**  
Page 764  
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi  
Translation: Fine, excellent, pleasure-giving.

**mathadi workers**  
Page 370  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: Loaders, as in dockyards. Workers who carry and move loads.

**matka**  
Page 23  
Languages: Bombay slang  
Translation: The illegal numbers game in Bombay, which is very big business.

**mauj-maja**  
Page 539  
Languages: Hindi, Marathi  
Translation: Pleasure and fun.

**maulvi**  
Page 841  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: A title given to Sunni religious scholars.

**mausa-ji**
mausambi
Page 229
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Sweet lime.

mausi
Page 5
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Aunt, mother’s sister.

MCOCA
Page 764
Languages: English
Translation: “Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act.” This is a very Draconian act which allows an accused to be arrested and kept in jail for six months without trial. The law requires as a condition of bail that the judge believe at the time of the arrest (before any trial) that the accused is not guilty; therefore the accused is presumed guilty until proven innocent. Many human rights organizations have asked for the repeal of this law. MCOCA replaces TADA (“Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act”), which was allowed to lapse in 1995 after fierce protests.

MEA
Page 342
Languages: English
Translation: Ministry of External Affairs (at the national level), which is responsible for all Indian affairs outside the country.
See http://meaindia.nic.in/.

mehndi
Page 15
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Henna.

mela
Page 361
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A carnival or fair.

Mems
Page 167
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An abbreviations for "Mem-sahibs," or "ladies."

Memsaab
Page 62
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Madam.

mere desh ki dharti sona ugle, ugle heere moti
Page 49
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from a song from the Hindi film Upkar (“Good Works,” 1967): “The earth of my country gives forth gold, it gives pearls and jewels.” The song is sung in the film by a farmer, so he’s talking about the richness of his land.

Mere sahiba kaun jaane gun tere?
Page 891
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: This is from a “shabad.” The literal meaning of “shabad” — in Punjabi — is "word." Here, in this context, “shabad” is the revealed word of Vaheguru, God; this is a line from a hymn or verse from the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of the Sikhs. It translates, roughly, into something like, “O Lord, who can know your qualities?”
Mere sapnon ki rani kab aaye gi tu, aayi rut mastaaani kab aaye gi tu...
Page 438
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is a line from a song from the Hindi film Aradhana ("Worship," 1969). "Oh queen of my dreams, when will you come? The intoxicating season has come, when will you come? See http://imdb.com/title/tt0065416/.

Mir Saab
Page 844
Languages: Urdu
Translation: An aristocratic title.

Mishmi
Page 306
Languages:
Translation: An ethnic tribe native to the northeast of India.

mithai
Page 85
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Sweets, desserts.

MLA
Page 112
Languages: English
Translation: A "Member of the Legislative Assembly" -- a representative elected by the voters of a district to a state legislature.

mogra
Page 776
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A flower, a variety of Jasmine.

mohalla
Page 69
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A neighbourhood, a locality.

moksha
Page 532
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Liberation from the endless cycle of rebirth. Moksha is the fourth of the purusharthas or aims of life; the other three are dharma (duty), artha (material gain, sustenance), and kama (pleasure).

monai
Page 526
Languages: Konkani
Translation: A low stool.

motu
Page 369
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Fat.

MP
Page 144
Languages: English
Translation: A "Member of Parliament" -- an elected representative to the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha, the two houses of the central Indian government.

MTNL
Page 748
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Maharashtra Telephone Nigam Limited" -- a government-owned telephone service provider.

muchchad
Page 58
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Much” or “mooch” is a moustache. A “muchchad” is someone with an especially impressive moustache.

multani mitti
Page 898
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Clay or Fuller’s Earth, which has been used since antiquity as a face pack. In India, this lime-rich substance often comes from the northwestern part of the subcontinent, particularly Multan. The clay is mixed variously with milk, honey, lemons, rose water, almonds, and so on.

Mumbaikars
Page 209
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A resident of Mumbai.

munis
Page 563
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A sage or monk, particularly in the Hindu tradition. A wise man, often blessed with extraordinary powers.

musst
Page 96
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Fine, flashy.

mustandas
Page 168
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Louts.

muths
Page 298
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "muth" is a Hindu shrine, usually with a number of sadhus or swamis attached. Some muths are very rich because of the donations given by the devout.

na
Page 353
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, "No." Often used as an interrogative at the end of a sentence: "You read the book, na?"

naamam
Page 572
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: An iconic mark worn on the forehead; there are different shapes of the naamam depending on the religious proclivities of the person.

nada
Page 23
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Drawstring.

naga
Page 548
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sect of sadhus or monks. The naga sadhus are Shaivites, and have existed as a sect for millenia. They carry tridents, swords, spears, and are the "warrior" sadhus; their sect is divided into "akharas" or "regiments." Many of them do not wear clothes.

Naga
Page 315
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An ethnic group; the Nagas live in Nagaland and Manipur, in northeast India.

nagada
Page 264
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Indian kettle drums. They are played with sticks.

nagar
Page 210
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Town, settlement.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>naka</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>Marathi</td>
<td>Intersection, crossroads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nakabandi</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>Hindi, Marathi</td>
<td>An operation by the police wherein they stop vehicles on the road and check them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nakhraas</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>This is Urdu for “coquetry, blandishments, charm, delicacy.” There’s not a word or concept in English that’s exactly appropriate for this very South Asian behaviour. The nearest one can come to it is to say that it consists of very delicate, very feminine flirtation that is understood by all sides to be partly artifice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namaaz</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>The namaaz or salat is the daily prayer practised by Muslims; usually refers to five daily prayers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namaaz ka gatta</td>
<td>879</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>The dark mark on the foreheads of devout Muslims, which comes from touching the forehead to the ground as they kneel in prayer five times each day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namaazi</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>A devout Muslim, someone who reads the Namaaz or prayers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namaskar</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Synonymous with “namaste” — a respectful greeting; the palms are folded in front of the chest as the person says this.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namkeen</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>&quot;Savoury&quot; -- salty or spicy. Often used to describe snacks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namoona</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Specimen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nanak dukhiya sab sansaar</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
<td>&quot;Nanak, all the world is in pain.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>narangi</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, the orange fruit. Here, it is used as the name of a flavoured liquor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>narial-pani</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A &quot;narial&quot; is a coconut, so narial-pani is &quot;coconut water,&quot; the liquid from inside a coconut. People often buy coconuts from sidewalk sellers, who chop off the tops to allow drinking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>natevaik</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>Marathi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Translation: Relatives, the community that one is a part of.

**nau-number**
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Literally, “Number 9.” Bombay slang term for policemen.

**nawab**
Page 232
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: A title for a Muslim noble.

**Nayakan**
Page 530
Languages: Tamil
Translation: "Nayakan" means "The hero" or "The leader" in Tamil. In this case, the reference is to a very famous and very influential film (1987) directed by Mani Ratnam and starring Kamal Haasan. Kamal Haasan plays Velu Naicker, a boy who rises to become a powerful don in the Bombay underworld. Velu Naicker is based on the real-life Varadarajan Mudaliar, or "Varada," who rose from poverty and obscurity to become one of the most powerful men in Bombay. Varada was a Tamil who struggled against prejudice and discrimination in Maratha-dominated Bombay. For gangsters of Gaitonde's generation, Varada is a figure out of the past, a legendary figure to put aside Haji Mastan and Yusuf Patel.

**NEFA**
Page 296
Languages: English
Translation: "North East Frontier Agency." One of the pre-Independence agencies under the British administration. Now that area is divided between the states of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.

**NGO**
Page 400
Languages: English
Translation: "Non-Governmental Organization."

**Nikki**
Page 162
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: Literally, “small.” In the book, used as a term to address Prabhjot Kaur.

**nimbu pani**
Page 126
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Lemon water," similar to lemonade.

**Nirodh**
Page 409
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A brand name for a condom introduced by the Government of India a few decades ago. These condoms are distributed free, and the advertisements for them were once ubiquitous.

**neem**
Page 32
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A native Indian tree (*Azadirachta indica*). The leaves and branches have numerous medicinal properties. Twigs from the neem are used as toothbrushes.

**neer dosas**
Page 525
Languages: Kannada
Translation: "Neer" is water. Neer dosas are made with a very watery batter.
| **NRI** | Page 662 | Languages: English | Translation: "Non-Resident Indian." |
| **ah** | Page 19 | Languages: Hindi | Translation: A small open waterway. Often, sewers empty into ahs. |
| **OBC** | Page 15 | Languages: English | Translation: An abbreviation for “Other Backward Caste,” which is one of the classifications listed in the Indian constitution. |
| **Om** | Page 264 | Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit | Translation: Sometimes transliterated as "Aum." A sacred syllable in Hinduism; is often placed at the beginning of sacred texts. |
| **Om evam saraswatyey namah** | Page 716 | Languages: Sanskrit | Translation: An invocation from a classical Sanskrit text: “Om! I honour the goddess Saraswati...” |
| **One, two, chal shuru hoja** | Page 718 | Languages: Hindi | Translation: This is a line from a song from the Hindi film, *Humjoli* (“Friend,” 1970): “One, two, let’s start...” |
| **PA** | Page 66 | Languages: English | Translation: Personal Assistant. |
| **paan** | Page 33 | Languages: Hindi | Translation: A sweet or savoury palate-cleanser made from various fillings folded within betel leaves. Paans are often offered to guests, or presented after meals. There are many varieties of paan, some of which involve the use of tobacco. |
| **paaplet** | Page 69 | Languages: Marathi | Translation: Pomfret. |
| **padhaku** | Page 839 | Languages: Hindi | Translation: Studious. |
| **paes** | Page 526 | Languages: Konkani | Translation: A rice dish (sometimes transliterated as “pej”). |
| **pagdi** | Page 566 | Languages: Hindi, Punjabi | Translation: Turban. |
**paisa phenk, tamasha dekh**
Page 10
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Throw money, watch the spectacle.”

**paisa vasool**
Page 627
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Getting one's money's worth.

**paisa vasool**
Page 627
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: "Worth the money spent."

**paise**
Page 329
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Plural of “paisa,” a monetary unit. A hundred paise make up one rupee.

**pakoras**
Page 175
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A snack: vegetables or meats are dipped in gram flour and deep-fried.

**palki**
Page 891
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A palanquin. At the Harmandir Sahib in Amritsar, a gold and silver palki is used to carry the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book.

**pallu**
Page 11
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: The loose end of a woman’s sari, usually worn over the shoulder. Sometimes, for freedom in movement, women will tie the pallu around the waist. This is especially true of women engaged in hard labour.

**paltu**
Page 385
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Tame.

**PAN Card**
Page 133
Languages: English
Translation: “PAN” stands for “Permanent Account Number,” which all taxpayers are required to have by the Income Tax department.

**panchnama**
Page 18
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A first listing of the evidence and findings that a police officer makes at the scene of a crime. The document has to be signed by the investigating officer and two supposedly impartial witnesses. See http://www.mumbaipolice.org/citizens-charter/panchnama.htm.

**pandhara rassa**
Page 732
Languages: Marathi
Translation: "White gravy."

**pandit**
Page 256
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Hindu priest.

**pandita**
Page 572
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A familiar form of "pandit."

**panga**
Page 510
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Quarrel, trouble.

pani
Page 393
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Water.

pani-puri
Page 690
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A savoury snack. A light, crisp ball of dough is filled with spicy masala water and potato stuffing. Also known as "gol gappa" or "puchka."

Pankhida tu uddi jaaje
Page 497
Languages: Gujarati
Translation: This is from a popular song heard during garba dances: “O bird, fly away...” The lines which follow are:

Pawagarh re
Kehje Ma Kali ne re
Garbo ramwa re

Which means:

O bird, fly away to Pawagarh
Tell Mother Kali
to dance the garba

papad
Page 829
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Also "papadum." A thin wafer-like snack, made from lentils, gram flour, or rice flour. Often served as an appetizer.

paplu
Page 108
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The card game of Rummy.

papri chaat
Page 218
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A snack: crispy flour wafers served with potatoes, yoghurt, and tamarind chutney.

paranda
Page 896
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: Colourful strings or tassels which women braid into their hair or tie into buns. Parandas can also have other decorative elements attached to them. Parandas for special occasions can be made of gold and silver.

paratha
Page 563
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A fried bread usually made from whole-wheat flour. The dough is fried in ghee or oil, and the paratha is often stuffed with vegetables.

parauntha
Page 163
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: Punjabi word for "paratha," which is a fried bread usually made from whole-wheat flour. The dough is fried in ghee or oil, and the paratha is often stuffed with vegetables.

parishad
Page 596
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Council.

parkarma
Page 891
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: The circular walkway around the sacred pool at the Harmandir Sahib in Amritsar.
**Pashmina**  
Page 889  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: A high-quality cashmere made from the fleece of the Himalayan Mountain Goat.

**Patka**  
Page 183  
Languages: Punjabi  
Translation: A simple cloth used as a headcovering by Sikhs.

**Patli**  
Page 853  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Thin, sparse. In reference to soil, "not rich."

**Patra**  
Page 870  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Chopper.

**Patta**  
Page 12  
Languages: Hindi, Marathi  
Translation: Literally “strap,” but in Bombay police stations it refers to a long piece of thick canvas taken from the kind of belt that drives machinery. The strap is then fixed to a wooden handle, and is used to hit prisoners during interrogation. The advantage for the policeman is that the patta doesn’t leave as many marks as other implements.

**Pav**  
Page 210  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: Bread, from the Portuguese word “pao.”

**Pav-Bhaji**  
Page 218  
Languages: Marathi  
Translation: A dish especially popular in Bombay. The "bhaji" is a spicy potato and vegetable curry, the "pav" is bread. The pav is baked on the same tava or pan on which the bhaji is prepared.

**Paya**  
Page 97  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Goat’s Trotters curry.

**PCO**  
Page 152  
Languages: English  
Translation: "Public Call Office." You can pay to make a local or long-distance phone call at a PCO.

**Pedha**  
Page 61  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A sweet dish.

**Peetal**  
Page 112  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Brass.

**Peloed**  
Page 445  
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi  
Translation: To "pelo" is to pound, to impact. Here it is a reference to sex.

**Peri Pauna**  
Page 84  
Languages: Punjabi  
Translation: “I touch your feet.” This is something one says as one touches the feet of an elder, or someone who is immensely respected.
peti
Page 120
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Bombay slang for Rs. 100,000 (one lakh).

PG
Page 100
Languages: English
Translation: Paying Guest. This abbreviation can be used to describe a person who lives in someone else’s house (usually taking one room) and pays rent, or it can be used for the accommodations themselves. As in, “She just found a really good PG in Bandra.”

phachak
Page 242
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An onomatopoeia: the sound of an explosion.

phat
Page 36
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An onomatopoeia; something like the sound a balloon makes when it’s punctured. Sometimes used to describe something vanishing, imploding.

phataak
Page 62
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Explosive, hot. The sound of an explosion.

phatakdi
Page 253
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Sexy as a firecracker. A “pataka” is a firecracker, so “phatakdi” refers to the explosion a firecracker can make.

phatkari
Page 336
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Alum.

Phoolon ki Raani
Page 457
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is the title of a fictional film, “Queen of Flowers.”

phuljadi
Page 107
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Sparkler.

phulkas
Page 173
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A kind of unleavened bread that is very fluffy, and smaller and lighter than the chapati or roti.

pichkari
Page 372
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A syringe-shaped squirter that is used by revellers during the Holi festival to spray coloured water on each other. Essentially, an Indian water pistol.

pir
Page 103
Languages: Urdu
Translation: A Sufi saint and teacher.

pocha
pocket-maar
Page 489
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Maar" means something like "grab" or "grabber," or even "hitter." So a "pocket-maar" is someone who grabs or hits your pocket, a pickpocket.

podhina
Page 429
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Mint.

poha
Page 600
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A spicy snack made from rice flakes.

pohe
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Spicy snack made from rice flakes.

policies
Page 365
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Slang for policemen.

pooja
Page 251
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Prayer.

poora
Page 539
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Full, complete.

potli
Page 571
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A kind of cloth bag.

prakriti
Page 706
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Nature.

Pralay
Page 520
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: In Hindu mythology, the destruction of the world.

pranaam
Page 553
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A respectful greeting. Can be used at both meeting and parting.

pranayama
Page 467
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Various yogic exercises breathing exercises that help the practitioner to strengthen and control his or her "prana" or life force. "Prana" is life force; "yama" is control.

prasad
Page 61
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Food that is offered to a deity, and then is consumed with the belief that the god or goddess has blessed the offering.

pravachan
Page 553
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A spiritual talk, sermon.

**PRC**
Page 857
Languages: English
Translation: "People's Revolutionary Council," a (fictional) Marxist organization. The PRC is a legitimate, above-ground organization; the People's Action Committee is the PRC's underground military arm.

**PSEB**
Page 781
Languages: English
Translation: Punjab State Electricity Board.

**PSI**
Page 5
Languages: English
Translation: Police Sub-Inspector.

**PT**
Page 140
Languages: English
Translation: Physical Training.

**pucca**
Page 24
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Made of bricks and cement. “Pucca” is literally “solid” or “permanent,” as opposed to “kuchcha” or “soft” or “impermanent.” A “kuchcha” construction is made of mud or clay and other found materials, and therefore starts leaking or washes away at the first hard rain. Therefore you want a “pucca” house, which is hard to afford.

**puddi**
Page 257
Languages: Bombay slang, Marathi
Translation: A twist of paper, a small paper packet.

**pugree**
Page 619
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A turban. Also “pug.”

**puja**
Page 117
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Prayer.

**pujari**
Page 112
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Priest.

**puranpoli**
Page 92
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A sweet dessert made from wheat flour, oil, grated coconut, jaggery, and sometimes white sugar.

**purdah**
Page 211
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Literally, "curtain." Here, refers to the prevention of men from seeing women. To achieve this, men and women are segregated from each other. Additionally, women are required to cover their bodies, especially their faces.

**purusha**
Page 561
Languages: Sanskrit
Translation: Literally, "man." In the construction of Vedic altars, a purusha was an important measure of length. An "angula" was the distance between the lines marking the middle joint of the middle finger of the sacrificer. A hundred and twenty angulas made one purusha. The purusha
then was used as the basis for several measurements used in the sizing and shape of the altar.

**pustakalaya**  
Page 840  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Library.

**put-tru**  
Page 326  
Languages: Bombay slang, English  
Translation: "Put through" in an accent particular to Konkani Catholics.

**PWD**  
Page 165  
Languages: English  
Translation: "Public Works Department." Government organization which builds roads, bridges, and government buildings.

**Pyaar ka Diya**  
Page 488  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: This is the title of a made-up Hindi film: “The Lamp of Love.”

**qayamat**  
Page 520  
Languages: Urdu  
Translation: Apocalypse.

**quintals**  
Page 177  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A measure of weight; in India a quintal is equivalent to 100 kg.

**Qutub Minar**  
Page 534  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A brick minaret (237.8 feet high); construction began in 1193 and ended in 1368. Three emperors were responsible for the construction of this monument: Qutb-ud-din Aybak, the first Muslim ruler of Delhi; his successor, Iltutmish; and Firuz Shah Tughluq.

**raand**  
Page 407  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Prostitute, like "randi."

**Rabb mehar kare**  
Page 675  
Languages: Punjabi  
Translation: “Lord have mercy.”

**raddi**  
Page 78  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Literally, "used" or "waste." For instance, people sell old newspapers and magazines to the raddi-wallah, who then recycles the paper. Old clothes, household implements, electronics, and so on can also be sold to the raddi-wallah and reused.

**Radha game ke game Mira**  
Page 235  
Languages: Gujarati  
Translation: A fragment from a song: "Do you like Radha or do you like Mira?"

**ragdo**  
Page 355  
Languages: Bombay slang  
Translation: To rub, to scrape, to wear down. The word can also be used as a noun: “ragda” is “the rub,” or “rubbing.”

**raita**  
Page 147  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A condiment made from yoghurt.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>raj</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Kingdom, empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raja</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>King.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rajma-chawal</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>Hindi, Punjabi</td>
<td>Red kidney beans served with rice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakshak</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hindi, Marathi</td>
<td>The word literally means “Protector.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rakshasa</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>In Hindu mythology, the rakshasas are a race of demons or goblins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ram-raiya</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, &quot;the rule of Rama.&quot; The reference is to the mythical rule of the god-king Rama, within which perfect justice, fair play, prosperity, and virtue existed. Currently, the phrase is often used to describe the utopia that India will supposedly become once it becomes a &quot;Hindu Rashtra,&quot; or Hindu nation. Various right-wing groups use the phrase &quot;ram-raiya&quot; to push their agenda of religious nationalism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>randi</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Hindi, Punjabi</td>
<td>Whore.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rangoli</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>Gujarati, Hindi</td>
<td>Art made with finely ground powders, usually on the floor. Rangoli can be figurative, or consist of abstract patterns. It is often made by women near the entrance to homes. Rangoli has religious significance, and is especially associated with Diwali, when homes are cleaned and beautified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rangroot</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Recruit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rani</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Queen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ras</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>Gujarati</td>
<td>Literally “juice.” In this case refers to mango juice; it's very thick, more like a puree than the liquid one drinks at breakfast. Gujaratis eat it with puris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rasgulla</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>Hindi, Bengali</td>
<td>A dessert made from unripened or cottage cheese, which is soaked in a sugar syrup. Rasagullas are white.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rashtra</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ravana
Page 384
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The great Rakshasa king of Lanka who is the antagonist of the *Ramayana*. He is actually a deeply knowledgeable scholar and a great yogi.

RAW
Page 71
Languages: English
Translation: Research and Analysis Wing, India’s foreign intelligence agency.

RDX
Page 385
Languages: English
Translation: Cyclotrimethylenetrinitramine, which forms the basis of many military explosives. Also known as T4 and cyclonite.

reham
Page 841
Languages: Urdu
Translation: Mercy.

Rehne do, yaaron, main door ja raha hoon
Page 667
Languages: Hindi
Translation: This is from a song from *International Dhamaka*, the film that Gaitonde produces: “Leave me be, friends, I am going far away.”

reshmi kabab
Page 154
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Literally, "silken kabab." The meat used for these kababs is soft and succulent, hence the name.

Rimzim
Page 281
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The brand name of a soft drink that is no longer made.

Rin
Page 161
Languages: English
Translation: A laundry soap, usually available in small blue cakes.

rishi
Page 16
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A sage, a seer.

rogan josh
Page 196
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Lamb curry.

roti
Page 17
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Unleavened bread, eaten with other foods.

RPI
Page 231
Languages: English
Translation: "Republican Party of India." The roots of the RPI are in the Scheduled Castes Federation, originally led by Dr. Ambedkar.

rumali rotis
Page 726
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A very thin bread -- "rumal" is...
handkerchief. A rumali roti is fairly large, and is folded over and over (like a handkerchief) before being served.

**Handkerchief**

**Sahib, Sab**

Page 5
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu
Translation: Sir.

**Saadi**

Page 55
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “ordinary.” Here, a category of cheap distilled liquor or tharra, often made and sold illegally.

**Saala**

Page 22
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Wife’s brother. Also used as a form of mild abuse.

**Saali**

Page 257
Languages: Hindi
Translation: One’s wife’s sister. Can also be used as a mild form of abuse.

**Sabji**

Page 603
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Vegetable.

**Sabse Bada Paisa**

Page 351
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “The Largest Money.” This is the name of a made-up TV show; there’ve been a lot of these quiz shows after “Kaun Banega Crorepati?” found great success.

**Sabudana ki khichdi**

Page 127
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Khichdi made with sabudana (sago) instead of rice.

**Sachin Tendulkar**

Page 24
Languages:
Translation: A very famous cricketer.

**Sadhu**

Page 152
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: An ascetic or yogi (practitioner of yoga). A sadhu leaves home and wanders the world, seeking moksha or liberation from the cycle of death and rebirth.

**Sadial**

Page 849
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Sadna" is a verb: "to rot." A "sadial" is a person who is no fun, who rots in his or her own unhappiness, or who rots a good time being had by others.

**Sadrakshanaya Khalanighranaya**

Page 220
Languages: Sanskrit
Translation: This is Sanskrit, and is the motto of the Bombay police: “Protect Truth, Destroy Evil.”

**Sahib**

Page 41
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A respectful term for a man: Usually equivalent to "Sir," but can also mean something like "Master" or "Lord."

**Sai Baba**

Page 5
Languages:
Translation: Sai Baba is a famous guru famed for the miracles he performs in front of crowds of thousands. Even his pictures perform miracles: devotees find sacred ash and other things in front of thei portraits. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sathya_Sai_Baba.

Sakranti
Page 473
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A religious festival. In certain parts of the country, the festival is celebrated by flying kites. In the days leading up to the festival, the sky is crowded with colourful kites.

sala langda-lulla
Page 224
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: "Sala" is literally "brother-in-law," and can be used as a mild form of abuse. "Langda" is lame; "lulla" is dumb. So the entire phrase would mean something like "damn cripple."

salaam alaikum
Page 925
Languages: Arabic, Urdu
Translation: This is a Muslim greeting: one person greets the other, “Salaam alaikum — peace be upon you.” The other person replies, “Waleikum as salaam — and unto you also, peace.” There are various spellings used for these greetings. The strict transliteration from the Arabic would be “As sala’amu alaikum” and “Walaiikum as sala’am.”

salwar-kameez
Page 69
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu
Translation: A traditional outfit worn by women in the Indian subcontinent — the kameez is a long shirt, and the salwar is a pair of loose trousers.

sama (as in "sama hymns")

Page 562
Languages: Sanskrit
Translation: The reference is to hymns from the Samaveda, the third Veda. The metrical portion of the Samaveda consists mostly of hymns which are chanted by Udgatar priests during important sacrifices.

samaan
Page 51
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Your stuff, your luggage. But used in the Bombay underworld for a handgun.

samadhi
Page 774
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: In Hinduism and Buddhism, the achievement of a non-dualistic state of consciousness. Great masters and yogis who have achieved samadhi are sometimes understood to be in a state of suspended animation, with their metabolism radically reduced; they are able to survive long periods without food, drink, and even air.

samagri
Page 566
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The materials used during a sacrifice or prayer: rice, kumkum, flowers, fruits, sandalwood, etc.

samajwadi
Page 231
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Socialist.

saman
Page 112
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Literally, “luggage.” In Bombay underworld slang, the word is used to refer to pistols.
sambhar
Page 525
Languages: Tamil
Translation: A dish made from lentils (usually red gram). Very common in South India.

sanskars
Page 850
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Traditions, rituals.

sants
Page 695
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Devotional poets who belong to the bhakti tradition in Hinduism; they are regarded as saints.

sanyas, sanyasi
Page 421
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Sanyas is the adoption of the life of the spirit; usually, it implies giving up the householder's life, the "things of the world." The sanyasi -- the practitioner of the spiritual life -- develops a detachment from the material world and spends his or her time in meditation and other spiritual or religious activities. The sanyasi searches for enlightenment, for union with the divine.

Sardar
Page 28
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: A Sikh.

sarkari
Page 71
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Governmental.

sarpanch
Page 637
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The elected head of a panchayat, a body that governs a village. Along with the other elected panches or members of the panchayat, the sarpanch provides local self-government.

sarson
Page 771
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Mustard.

sarvajanik
Page 840
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Public, for everyone, for all people.

sasural
Page 428
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The house of your in-laws. So, a house that is not yours but you are very familiar with, that you visit often. Career criminals therefore refer to jail as their “sasural.”

sat-trangi
Page 55
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “seven-coloured.” Here, a category of cheap distilled liquor or tharra, often made and sold illegally.

sat-sri-akal
Page 425
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: A Punjabi greeting addressed to Sikhs: "They be blessed who say truth is God."
**sattvic**
Page 553  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: In Hindu philosophy (particularly in the Samkhya system), everything in the world has three gunas or qualities: sattva, purity; rajas, heat, passion; and tamas, cold, inertia. A sattvic presence is pure, clear, and has the effect of purifying whatever comes into contact with it. A sattvic person is not selfish; he or she works for the general welfare; he or she is liberated from worldly desires.

**Satyanarayan Katha**  
Page 256  
Languages: Gujarati, Hindi  
Translation: A Hindu religious ceremony which involves the telling of a story.

**satyug**  
Page 774  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: According to Hindu mythology and philosophy, time is cyclical. Creation passes through a cycle of ages; as we pass through each age, morality continues to decline. There are four ages or yugas: satyug (the golden age); treta (the silver age); dwapar (the copper age); and kaliyug (the iron age). In satyug morality is intact and creation is at peace; through the ages of declining morality we've now reached the end of the kaliyug age, when materialism rules and suffering abounds.

**saunf**  
Page 121  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Fennel seed.

**sethani**  
Page 164  
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi  
Translation: The wife of a seth, a rich man.

**seva**  
Page 220  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Work, especially that performed without attachment or hope of reward. Selfless service.

**sev-puri**  
Page 216  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A savoury snack or chaat very popular in Bombay. Crisp puris or papadis are topped with sev, crisp noodles made out of chickpea flour. Yogurt, tamarind sauce and other condiments are added.

**shaandaar**  
Page 376  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Magnificent.

**shaandaar**  
Page 396  
Languages: Hindi, Urdu  
Translation: Magnificent, glorious. “Shandaar party” is a phrase often used in Hindi movies.

**shabad**  
Page 891  
Languages: Punjabi  
Translation: A hymn or part of one of the holy texts of the Sikhs, of which the Guru Granth Sahib is the most important.

**shabash**  
Page 72  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: “Well done,” or “Good job.”
**shagun**
Page 519
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Portent, augury.

**shakha**
Page 311
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A shakha is the smallest unit or cell of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). “Shakha” is literally “branch” in Sanskrit. Each shakha meets in the morning or evening to play games, learn tactics and the use of weapons, and to engage in rituals and debates. These meetings are usually held in playgrounds or open spaces, which allows numbers of people to gather for sports and exercise.

**shamiana**
Page 15
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A large tent. Such tents are often used at weddings and other functions attended by sizable numbers of people.

**shammi kebabs**
Page 51
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Lamb kebabs known for their silky texture.

**shamshan ghat**
Page 94
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The place where dead bodies are burnt.

**Shani**
Page 251
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Saturn.

**shanne**
Page 517
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: “Shanne” is what you call someone who is cunning, sneaky, or at least is trying to be. Depending on the intonation, a shanna can be someone who is trying to be overly smart.

**sheikh**
Page 540
Languages: Arabic
Translation: A tribal leader or noble in the Arabian peninsula.

**sher**
Page 893
Languages: Hindi, Punjabi
Translation: Tiger.

**Sheran-walli-Ma**
Page 174
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: An epithet for the goddess Durga: "The Mother with the Tigers."

**shlokas**
Page 555
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Verses.

**SHO**
Page 735
Languages: English
Translation: "Station House Officer."

**shosha**
Page 17
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Gimmickry with no real substance. Perhaps from “show” — Indians like to repeat words or sounds for emphasis. So, “What is this
show-sha?"

Shri
Page 31
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An honorific, similar to “Mr.” and used for men. The equivalent term for women is “Shrimati.”

sindoor
Page 71
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The red powder traditionally worn in the parting of the hair by married Hindu women.

slokas
Page 562
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A couplet from a holy text; in Hinduism, slokas are often from one of the Vedas or great epics.

SLR
Page 861
Languages: English
Translation: Self Loading Rifle.

soma
Page 562
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A drink often used in rituals and religious ceremonies in Vedic culture. The Rigveda particularly contains many references to soma, praising its intoxication, which brings enlightenment and knowledge. Soma was made from a mountain plant, but specific knowledge of this plant has been lost over the centuries; guesses have included psychedelic mushrooms and cannabis.

sooniti

Page 732
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A dish of finely ground mutton and onions, fried slowly in balls.

SP
Page 47
Languages: English
Translation: Superintendent of Police.

stupas
Page 333
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A Buddhist monument in the shape of a mound. Stupas often contain relics.

subedar
Page 299
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A rank in the Indian army which stands between commissioned and non-commissioned officers. A subedar usually commands a platoon.

suhaag-raat
Page 360
Languages: Hindi
Translation: The first night a couple spends together after their wedding.

supari
Page 10
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi, Marathi
Translation: A murder contract. The word actually refers to betel nuts, which are eaten to freshen the mouth. In the underworld, supari now refers to the proposal and acceptance of a hit.

surahi
Page 167
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Pitcher.
surahs
Page 631
Languages: Arabic
Translation: A section or chapter of the holy Koran.

suva
Page 678
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Dill.

swami
Page 475
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally means "lord," and is used as a honorific title. Often used for the head of Hindu religious sect or ashram.

taaiai
Page 219
Languages: Marathi
Translation: "Elder sister."

tabla
Page 446
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A small drum played with the hands; tablas are used in pairs.

TADA
Page 427
Languages: English
Translation: "Terroist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act," which was instituted in 1985 and allowed to lapse in 1995 because of wide misuse.

tadi
Page 855
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An alcoholic drink made from the sap of various kinds of palm tree. The sap is collected in cups attached to the trunk of the tree, and then fermented.

tadipaar
Page 831
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Someone who has been prohibited from entering certain areas; for instance, a tadipaar can be forbidden from entering city limits.

Tai
Page 329
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A respectful term: "elder sister."

takath
Page 783
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A traditional Indian couch without a back or arms. Depending on the context, the word can also mean "throne."

takli
Page 121
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Bald head.

taku
Page 590
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Someone who is bald. “Baldie.”

tamasai
Page 555
Languages: Hindi
Translation: See "sattvic."

tamasha
Page 45
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Spectacle, show.

tambi
Page 217
Languages: Bombay slang, Tamil
Translation: Any boy working at a roadside stall or restaurant. From the Tamil for "boy."

tandoori
Page 275
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A "tandoor" is a clay oven, so a "tandoori" dish is anything that is cooked in a tandoor.

tanga
Page 166
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A horse-drawn carriage; tangas were often used as taxis, although this is now increasingly uncommon except in small towns and villages.

tangdis
Page 51
Languages: Bombay slang, Hindi
Translation: Chicken legs.

tanki
Page 443
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A tank, reservoir.

tantra
Page 585
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A heterogenous body of esoteric religious practises and beliefs based in Hinduism. A common belief in tantric systems is that the universe is a physical emanation of divinity, and that humans are a part of this divinity; tantric rituals seek to allow humans to experience their own divine nature and oneness with the universe. "Left-handed tantra" refers to Kaula tantra, which uses acts that are usually forbidden -- including sex -- as a part of ritual practise.

tapas
Page 633
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Literally, "heat." Those who practise yoga or other spiritual or bodily disciplines accumulate tapas, a natural energy that allows them to "burn off" karma and also accomplish magical feats. In the legends, great yogis are said to accumulate so much tapas that they threaten to "burn the three worlds."

tapasya
Page 16
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Meditative practise, often involving very rigorous physical and spiritual austerity. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tapasya.

tapori
Page 11
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: Small time street hood, a punk.

Tarai gun maya mohi aayi
Page 196
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: This is a line from the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of the Sikhs. Here, it is sung as a "kirtan" or hymn: "Maya (illusion) with her three gunas — the three dispositions — has come to entice me; who can I tell of my pain?"

tari
Page 438
Languages: Marathi
Translation: A final garnish of spices which is put on dals and other foods after they are cooked.

Tathastu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tau</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Father's elder brother.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tava</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A round griddle, usually made of iron, steel, or aluminium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taveez</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>A talisman, often blessed by a holy man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teen-patti</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, &quot;three-cards.&quot; An Indian card game also known as &quot;Flush,&quot; similar to the British game Brag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tehelka</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Literally, &quot;Sensation!&quot; or &quot;Scandal!&quot; In this case, refers to an Indian newspaper and web site famous for uncovering corruption and malfeasance using sting operations and hidden cameras.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tempo</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>A vehicle similar to the autorickshaw, powered by a scooter or motorcycle engine. A tempo is usually larger than an autorickshaw, and is used for commercial purposes and transportation of goods, as opposed to autorickshaws, which are often used as taxis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thali</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A plate, usually made from steel or brass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thana</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Police station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thela</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>A thela is a small cart. Street vendors typically sell their wares from thelas, which they push about.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thoko</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Bombay slang, Hindi</td>
<td>“Thoko” is literally “to hit,” or “to thump.” It’s also underworld slang for killing, in the same way that Americans mafiosi use “hit.” Less often, it is used in the context of sex, to mean “to fuck.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thoku</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>Bombay slang</td>
<td>As above, to “thoko” is “to hit,” or “to thump.” So a “thoku” is someone who is thumped, hit; a lover who is a thoku is someone who is just banged, used for sex. It’s a very belittling and vulgar thing to call someone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tika</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Translation: A mark worn on the forehead by Hindus; the shape of the mark can signify which of the traditions within Hinduism the wearer follows.

**tikhat**
Page 732
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Very hot, full of chillis.

**tikkar-billa**
Page 22
Languages: Hindi, Marathi
Translation: Hopskotch.

**tilaks**
Page 572
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A tilak is an auspicious mark worn on the forehead by Hindus (both men and women). The tilak can be made from dried turmeric powder, which is red; sandal past; or ashes.

**tola**
Page 854
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Hamlet, settlement.

**tola**
Page 236
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A traditional Indian unit of weight equivalent to 11.6638038 grams.

**toli**
Page 489
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A gang, a pack.

**tulsi**
Page 680
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A plant -- the holy basil (Ocimum tenuiflorum). The tulsi is very sacred in Hinduism, and is also used in Ayurvedic

**tope**
Page 204
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Literally, “cannon.” Used sometimes as vulgar slang for the penis.

**topi**
Page 146
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Cap, hat.

**TRP**
Page 129
Languages: English
Translation: An abbreviation for “Television Rating Points.” An industry system of evaluating the popularity of television programs.

**Tu hi meri manzil**
Page 14
Languages: Hindi

**Tu kahan ye bataa, is nasheeli raat mein...**
Page 594
Languages: Hindi
Translation: These, and the lines on the next page (“He, chand taaron ne suna...”) are from the Hindi film Tere Ghar ke Samne (“In Front of your House,” 1963): “Tell me, where are you, in this intoxicating night?”

**tulsi**
Page 680
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A plant -- the holy basil (Ocimum tenuiflorum). The tulsi is very sacred in Hinduism, and is also used in Ayurvedic
medicine.

**Udipi**
Page 9
Languages: Kannada
Translation: In this case, a particular cuisine from the state of Karnataka. This vegetarian cuisine has its origins in the town of Udipi in Karnataka.

**UP**
Page 53
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Uttar Pradesh, a state in Northern India.

**Us side se wire de, chutiya**
Page 233
Languages: Hindi
Translation: “Give me the wire from that side, chutiya.”

**usal**
Page 526
Languages: Konkani, Marathi
Translation: Colloquially, a collective term for the various pulses — moog, matki, masoor, waal, chavli, and others — that can be used to make the typically Maharashtrian dish “usal.”

**uttapam**
Page 9
Languages: Tamil
Translation: A southern dish, similar to the dosa, that is made from rice and lentils.

**vada-pau**
Page 54
Languages: Bombay slang
Translation: A “vada” is a fried potato cutlet, more or less. “Pau” is Portuguese for bread. So the cutlet is put between slices of bread or in a sliced bread roll, and you get something like a vegetarian hamburger.

**Vah**
Page 531
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Very good, fine, excellent.

**Vahan kaun hai tera, musafir, jayega kahan?**
Page 512
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A line from the Hindi film Guide (1965): “Traveller – who, there, is yours? Where will you go?”

**Vaheguru**
Page 82
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: The term for God in Sikhism. Vaheguru is eternal, formless, and beyond all qualities and descriptions.

**vaid**
Page 531
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An Ayurvedic doctor.

**Vallavh re nakhva ho, vallavh re Rama**
Page 566
Languages: Marathi
Translation: This is a line from a traditional Marathi song: “Row, o boatman. Row, o Rama.”

**vatan**
Page 366
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Home, country. This is a tremendously emotive word that encompasses all the passionate feelings one has for one’s birthplace, for the landscapes of one’s native earth.
vediya
Page 470
Languages: Marathi
Translation: Crazy guy, nutcase.

ved-maharaj
Page 250
Languages: Hindi
Translation: An Ayurvedic physician.

veerji
Page 163
Languages: Punjabi
Translation: Respectful term for one's elder brother.

viharas
Page 773
Languages: Hindi
Translation: Monasteries.

vilayat
Page 149
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: From the Arabic "vilayat," for "province." In India, the word refers to England, and in a more fuzzy sense, to Europe.

vilayati
Page 543
Languages: Hindi
Translation: English, British; sometimes used in the more general sense of "foreign."

vira
Page 582
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: Warrior.

vizier
Page 683
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Also “wazir.” Literally, “minister” or “counsellor.” In chess in contemporary India, the piece that is called the “bishop” in the West.

VT
Page 154
Languages: English
Translation: Victoria Terminus -- a huge railway station where local and long-distance trains stop. The building was finished in 1888, and is an extraordinary example of Gothic architecture. The station has been renamed the "Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus," but the many thousands of commuters who pass through the station usually refer to it as "VT." The station is one of the busiest in India.

wallah
Page 107
Languages: Hindi
Translation: A person who performs a specific job, or is related to some activity or thing. So, a “paan-wallah” is someone who sells paan, and a “soda-wallah” is someone who sells soda.

Yaar, abhi ek matter ko settle karma hai
Page 233
Languages: Hindi
Translation: "Yaar, I have to settle a matter right now."

yaar, yaara
Page 42
Languages: Hindi, Urdu
Translation: Buddy, friend.

yagna
Page 556
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit
Translation: A religious and spiritual ceremony, a sacrifice.
**yagna-sthal**
Page 560  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: The place where a religious ceremony or sacrifice takes place.

**yajman**
Page 561  
Languages: Sanskrit  
Translation: Patron, host. In this case, the yajman is the patron of the yagna or sacrifice.

**ye dil na hota bechaara**
Page 446  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: Line from a song from the Hindi film *Jewel Thief* (1967). “If this heart weren’”“t so destitute...”

**yeda**
Page 592  
Languages: Bombay slang  
Translation: Crazy person, madman.

**Yeh shaam mastani, madhosh kiye jaye**
Page 614  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: This is a line from a song from the Hindi film *Kati Patang* (“Drifting Kite,” 1970): “This beautiful evening intoxicates me...”

**yugas**
Page 778  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A "yuga" is an "epoch" or "era." The Hindu conception of time conceptualizes four yugas or ages which follow each other in an eternal cycle. A thousand cycles of four yugas make one kalpa, which is 4,320,000,000 years long. A kalpa is equivalent to a single day or night for Brahma, the creator of the universe. Brahma lives for a hundred years made up of such days and night days -- equivalent to 311 trillion and 40 billion earth years; he then dies, and then Shiva the destroyer brings about the great dissolution of the universe. Then, nothing exists for another hundred Brahma years, after which a new cosmos with its own Brahma is born.

**zamindar**
Page 841  
Languages: Hindi  
Translation: A hereditary landlord, equivalent to the landed gentry of England. Some of the zamindars were descended from aristocracy, others were from families of military leaders and well-off revenue speculators; all had aristocratic pretensions. The havelis or mansions of the zamindars were large and well-kept, surrounded by huge estates, and staffed by many servants and attendants.

**zannat ki hoor**
Page 882  
Languages: Urdu  
Translation: A fairy from heaven.