

Time period	Dates	Historical trends in India	Texts/traditions (VERY incomplete!)
Prehistoric	2500-1500 BCE	Indus Valley civilization	Unknown, script not yet deciphered
Vedic	1500-800 BCE	early Indo-Aryan civilization	Composition of early Vedic texts
Upanishadic	800-400 BCE	rise of cities on Gangetic plain	Increase in ascetic practice; Upanishads; Buddhism & Jainism
Epic	400 BCE-600 CE	dynasties & small kingdoms	Early "Hinduism" Bhagavad Gita and Yoga Sutras; epics (Mahabharata & Ramayana)
Medieval	600-1750 CE	Muslim invasions	Rise of bhakti and tantra Puranas (tales of gods and goddesses)
Modern	1750-1947	British domination of India	Translation and dissemination of texts and teachings outside of India; Neo-Vedanta
Indian state	1947-present	independence, partition Hindu fundamentalism, secularism	Practice of yoga in the West; texts on yoga & meditation by Western authors

In the Kali (age) there is fatal disease, continuous hunger and fear, awful dread of drought and revolution in the lands... abortion and hero-murder will prevail in this age... Money alone will confer nobility. Power will be the sole definition of virtue... Lust will be the only reason for womanhood... Boldness and arrogance will become equivalent to scholarship... The pretense of greatness will be the proof of it, and powerful men with many severe faults will rule over all the classes on earth.

-- quote from a Puranic text