

MESMERIZING
Malabar

A SEVEN TONGUED WONDER

KASARAGOD



A seven tongued Wonder

Kasaragod has stood witness to the settlement of various human communities within its borders that came in the wake of military invasions, commercial travels and diplomatic missions. While many of the original settlers left in course of time, their successors, born into the land, developed emotional attachment to the environs and decided to remain. Subsequently their languages and their cultures nourished the adoptive region, and Kasaragod became a land of seven tongues.





From Kanhangad to Manjeswaram, the Malayalis themselves are different as the dialects they speak are very varied. Adding to this mix is the confluence of other tongues which makes the land very rich in cultures.

After Malayalam, the next language spoken by the largest number of people in the district is Tulu. It is estimated that around 23 separate Tulu communities live here, each speaking a markedly different dialect.

Kasaragod also has a Marathi-speaking community that stayed back, even after the time of Maharaja Shivaji's invasion into south India.

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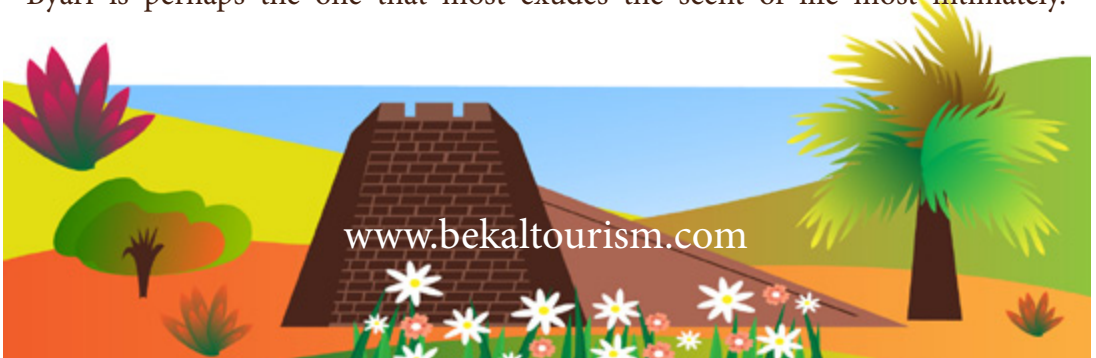
The presence of Konkani-speaking Goans here is the result of the Portuguese conquest. When foreigners overran the land of their birth, the Goans fled for their lives and sought refuge in Kasaragod. In course of time, the Christian and the Brahmin Konkani Goan diasporas evolved, and became part of the community of north Malabar.

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Urdu too is spoken in Kasaragod, and the community that speaks this tongue lives in a region named Uppala. They are the descendants of the Hanafi sect of Muslims, who arrived here along with Tipu Sultan's invasion.

Kannada owes its prominence in Kasaragod to the presence of the Bhatt community who came originally from Karnataka. Their loyalty to the linguistic roots is so strong that they speak only Kannada among themselves.

A language that is unique to Kasaragod is Byari. It is spoken exclusively by the Muslim fisherfolk living in the coastal regions of Kumbala, Uppala and the outskirts of Kasaragod city. Among all the languages spoken in the district, Byari is perhaps the one that most exudes the scent of life most intimately.



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Attractions

- Kasaragod
- Kanhangad
- Manjeswaram
- Bekal Fort
- Uppala



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Kasaragod

This tranquil place is famous as the land of gods, sea-kissed forts, majestic hills, rivers and delightful beaches



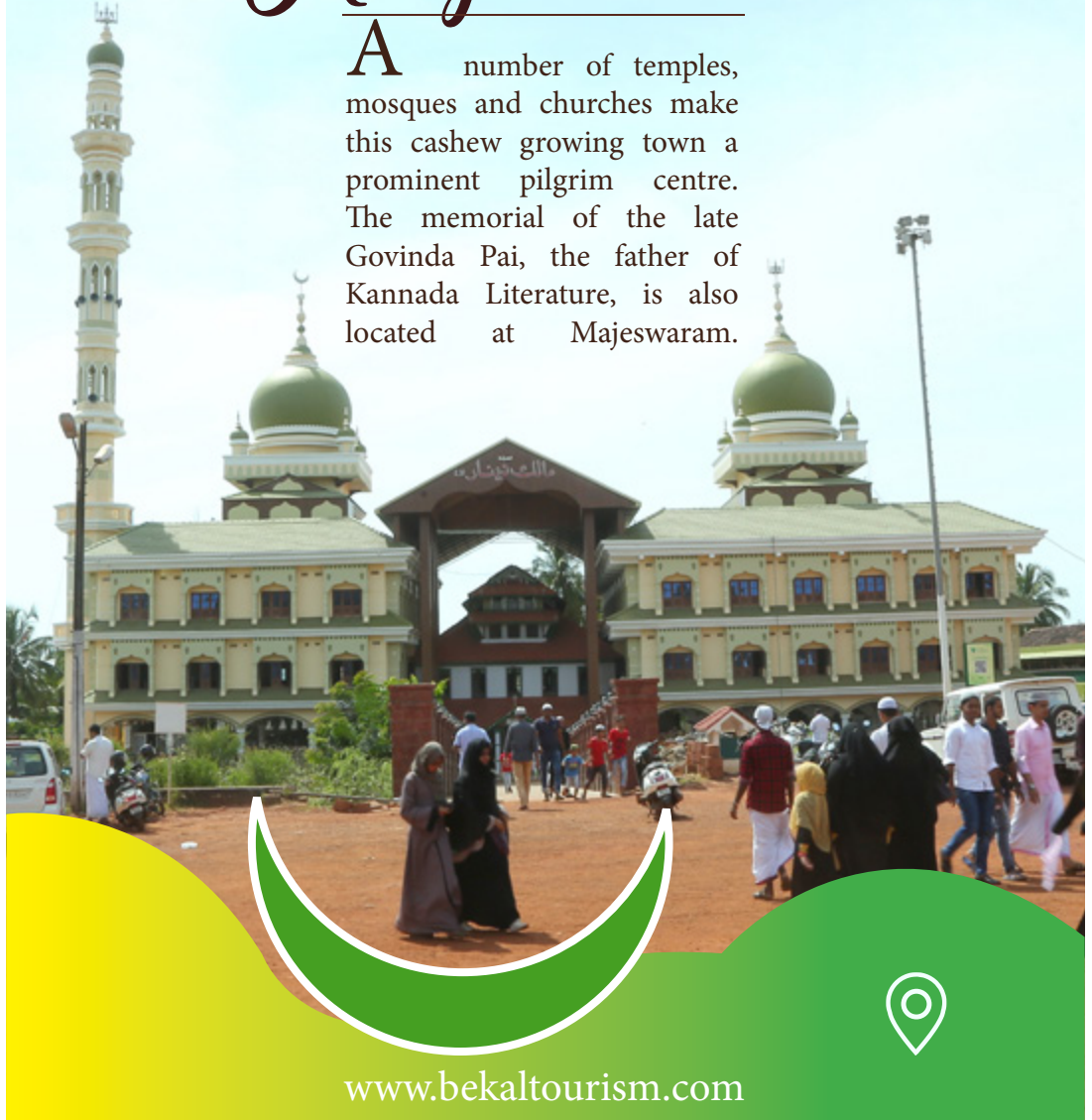
Kanhangad

Renowned for its chain of forts built by Someshekara Nayak of Ikkeri Dynasty, another popular landmark here is the Nityanandashram, a spiritual centre



Manjeswaram

A number of temples, mosques and churches make this cashew growing town a prominent pilgrim centre. The memorial of the late Govinda Pai, the father of Kannada Literature, is also located at Majeswaram.



Uppala

This quiet suburb of Kasaragod has been the centre of Urdu language in the place. The highlight of this village is number of beaches such as Uppala beach, Moosodi beach and fishing zone, Ayyoor-Parakkatta Beach, Ayyoor-Peringady beach and Berika Beach.



Bekal

One of the largest and best preserved forts in Kerala, Bekal fort is the main centre of attraction in Kasaragod. This imposing circular structure of laterite rises 130 feet above sea level stands on a 35 acre headland that runs into the Arabian Sea.



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Kasaragod



Nityananda Ashram



Bekal Fort



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