

**NATIONAL
PROVERBS: INDIA**

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National Proverbs: India by Abdul Hamid Minhas

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Oakley House, Bloomsbury St. W.C.

"A proverb is to speech what salt is to food."

Arabic Proverb.

THE Proverbs of a Nation are not only an epitome of its wisdom, but crystallise for us much of its national temperament and popular habits of thought. Nowhere, perhaps, can what are regarded as the national traits be so compactly presented as in these saws and proverbs. In the preparation of the present series the utmost care has been taken to unearth those sayings which are in danger of falling into disuse, and are not widely known. The commonplace Proverbs have, in most cases, been rejected; little-known sources have been investigated, and everything possible done to give, in each case, the cream of the available material. The publishers will be grateful to hear of any good but little-known Proverbs which readers may be able to add to the present collection.

It should be mentioned that the present volume of Indian proverbs has been selected by a clever Anglo-Indian scholar, Mr Abdul Hamid Minhas.

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National Proverbs :
India

God provides for all.

Saved once, saved for ever.

Delhi is still a long way off.

What need there is of repentance, when
the birds have grazed the field.

He will give half a rupee, but not half
a pie.

He who leaving half runs after the
whole is drowned beyond finding.

National Proverbs

Call a low-born a gentleman and he will kick his very own brethren.

A bad man is better than a bad name.

No one can hide a nim (a kind of bitter leaf) leaf with embroidery.

Nothing can be learnt without learning.

The child is under the arm and she is searching throughout the city.

Service is self-inflicted slavery.

India

It is impossible to darn the rent made by Fate, even if you darn with the needle of wisdom.

Can't walk because the yard is crooked.

The sieve chides the winnowing fan.

Walking and wandering does not kill, but sitting does.

Do good while you are alive.

The overawed shopman gives full weight.

A bribe-taking officer is subservient to his subordinates.