



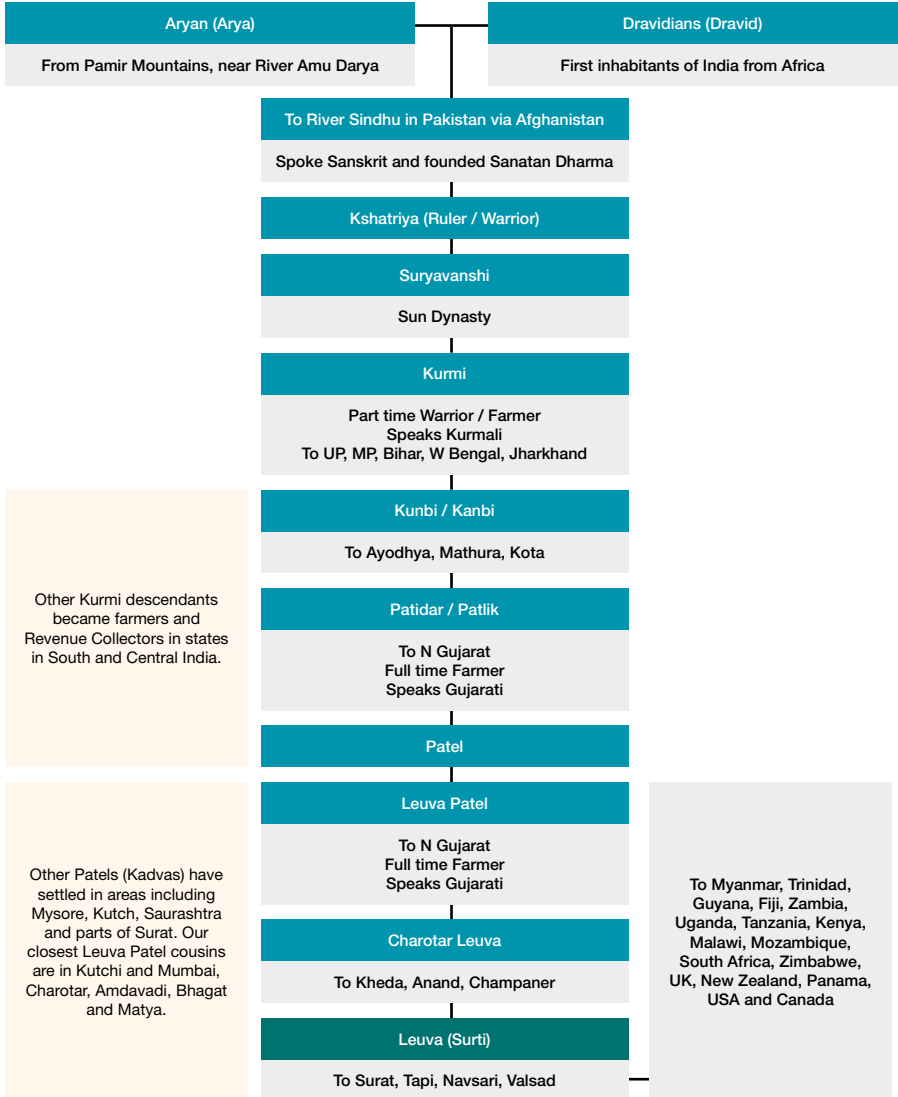
Sanatan Dharma

The Aryans worshipped Sky/Storm god (Indra) & natural elements like sun, wind, fire, air etc. They defeated the Dravidians, but assimilated with them. The combined culture known as Indus Valley Civilization settled on the banks of rivers Indus, Saraswati & in Gujarat. The oldest of the Hindu texts like the Vedas, Upanishads etc were written in this period (1500 BC – 500 BC). This is how the ‘Sanatan Dharma’ (Hindu religion) was born.





Ancestral lineage





The Kshatriyas

The Kshatriya were divided in to three groups; The Rajans, Kshatriyas & Kurmi-Kshatriyas. The word Kurmi is derived from Sanskrit words 'Kuru' + 'mi' & it means 'I can do'. The Kurmis were farmers during peaceful times but fought for their kingdom during war. Originally the Aryans were nomads and did not cultivate. The Kurmis learnt agriculture from the Dravidians –Their profession for over 3 millenniums.

The two most prominent Kshatriya dynasties in India were the Suryavanshi (Sun dynasty) & the Chandravanshi (Moon dynasty). They have ruled over Indian kingdoms throughout most of its history. Shri Ram was the 67th King of the Suryavanshis, while Shri Krishna was the 64th King of the Chandravanshis. The Leuvas & Kadvas claim to be of Suryavanshi & Chandravanshi descent respectively.

Rama's twin sons Lava (Luv) & Kush defeated King Janmejey of Vishalavati & established their shared kingdom at present day Lahore (Leya) & Kasor (Karad) in Punjab Pakistan. Leuvas & Kadvas originate from Lahore & Kasor respectively.





The Leuva Patidars settling in South Gujarat

Solanki King Siddharaj Jaisinh (1093 –1143 AD) conquered Malwa & invited Kanbis (Kurmis) to settle in his kingdom of Anhilwara (N Gujarat). It is said that Ramjibhai brought 600 Kanbi families & settled in Adalaj. They were given forest land to develop in lieu of tax. They worked hard & prospered quickly. The Kanbis adopted the language of the Gujjars (Gujarati). Outside Gujarat, they speak the respective state languages.

The Solanki King gave land equivalent to one village to each Patidar family. A headman was appointed in each village to keep records (Likh) of the crops on a given portion of land (Pat). These headmen became known as 'Pat-likh' which became shortened to 'Patel' ('Patil' in Maharashtra). Over time almost all Kanbis started using the last name 'Patel'.

In 1830s some Leuvas moved to South Gujarat from Charotar region. Here they cleared the forest & establish their villages. They grew rice, bananas, sugarcane, mangoes etc. They established several farming co-ops. The patron goddess of all Leuvas is Annapurna Devi. This region has never seen a drought in its history. During 60s & 70s they dominated the diamond cutting & polishing industry. Today many of them have migrated to UK, USA and other countries.





A Brief History of the Leuva Patidars in South Gujarat

Every LPS village (gaam) has a story of its origin, here is one such example.

Vadhvania Gaam is one of the villages in Surat District and the story behind the naming of this village is very bloody and colourful as you will discover in this article.

Up until late 1990s the Barrots (the person who records family history) used to come to the villages once or twice a year to record births and deaths to update the family tree. They narrated this account to the villagers during the gaam's global conventions and other key times.

Approximately 1,900 years ago due to foreign invaders, "Leuva" the King of Ayodhya decided to move towards Varanasi heading west bound toward Pharbhat Patran.

En route from Adhajan Nagar he established 6 Districts and 64 Villages. During this period, Muhammad Sahi (King of Delhi) imposed a "Land Tax" which the Leuva King refused to pay and he waged and won a twelve year war.

For reasons that are unknown the Leuva samaj fought each other and split into three groups in Sawant (Indian calendar year) 796 (739AD) and moved to Gujarat, Maharastra and Chennai (formerly Madras). The group which moved to Gujarat were further divided into 6 Districts namely Charoter, Khanam, Vaakal, Chatrisa, Karsi and Ahmedabad taking up present day surnames as Amin, Desai, Rai and of course Patel. What is interesting is that the Patel surname was derived from the word "Pate" meaning unused land, which they leased for farming and hence the name "Patidar" or Patel was born.

Around Sawant 1365 (1308AD), Patran's King Jaysi Chauhan allowed us to settle in his kingdom as we were making a positive contribution to his economy by our farming skills and doing philanthropic work such as building Ashapura Mataji's Mandir located in Kutch, as well as Vajnath Mahadev Mandir in Bharuch, a school and the world famous "Vav" (it's a



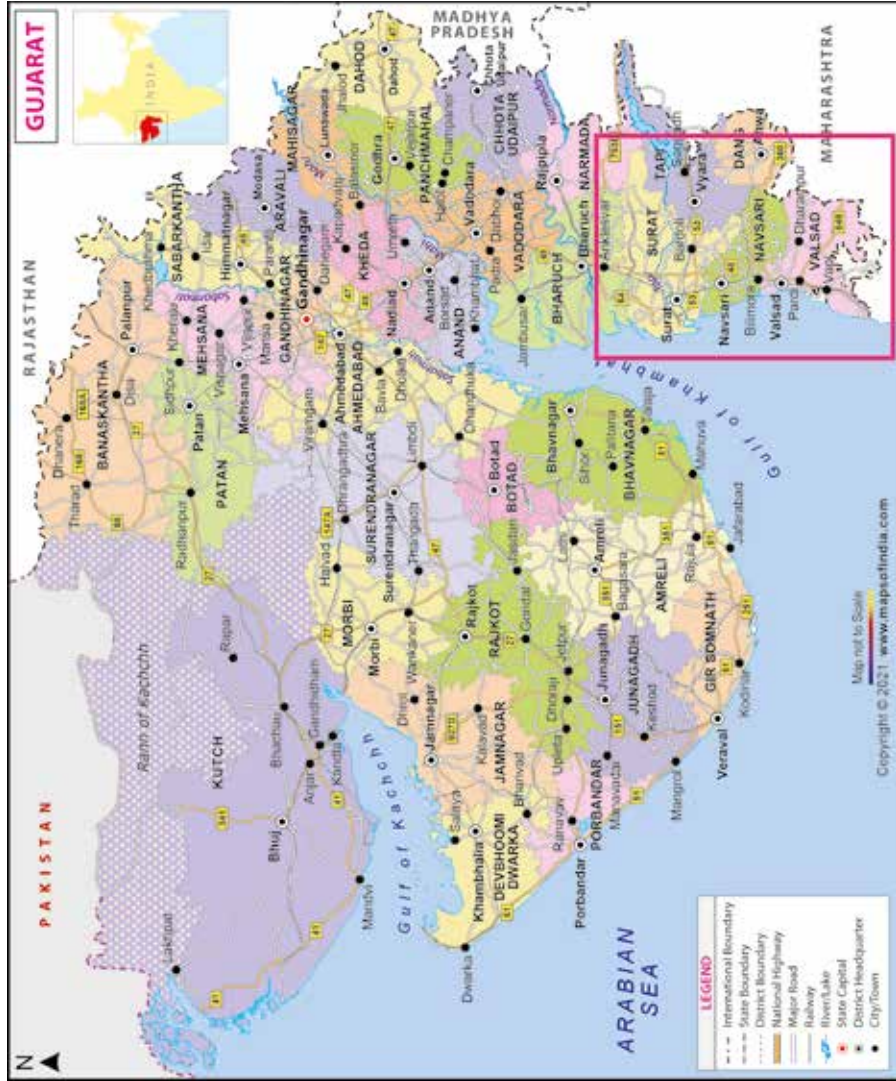
large well where you collect water by hand instead of a rope) The “Vav” is located near Adlanj which is between Ahemdabad and Gandhi Nagar, and is well worth a visit on your next trip to Gujarat! Around this time in history we also moved to current day Bharuch District.

Perhaps for economic reasons we continued to move southward and eventually settled in Vadhvania. As mentioned above there was a bloody fight (Vadh-Vad) for the protection of Cows between the Leuva and the Muslims. 400 Patels sacrificed their life and are believed to be buried under the village and hence the name “Vadhvania” was given in honour of their sacrifice.

We encourage you to find out more about your village history via the “Barrots” for the gaam and share the story with all via www.lpsamaj.co.uk/origins

Jai Shree Krishna

Arvindbhai Muljibhai Patel (Vadhvania/London)





SURAT
DISTRICT MAP

LEGEND

	National Highway
	State Highway
	Major Road
	District Boundary
	Railway
	River/Lake
	District Headquarter
	Major City/Town
	Other Town/Village

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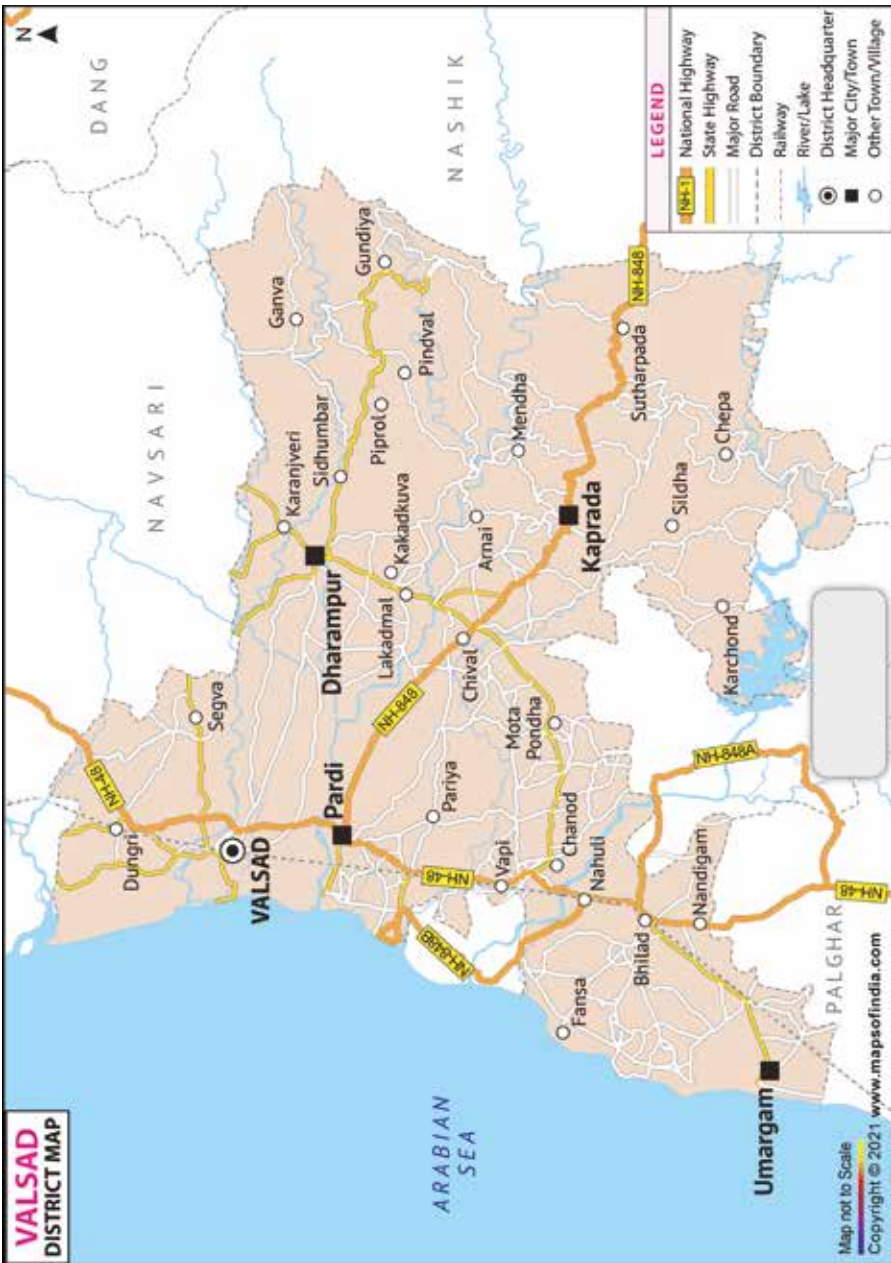
NAVSARI
DISTRICT MAP



LEGEND

	National Highway
	State Highway
	Major Road
	State Boundary
	District Boundary
	Railway
	River/Lake
	District Headquarter
	Major City/Town
	Other Town/Village

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VALSAD
DISTRICT MAP

LEGEND

-  National Highway
-  State Highway
-  Major Road
-  District Boundary
-  Railway
-  River/Lake
-  District Headquarter
-  Major City/Town
-  Other Town/Village

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