

GLOSSARY

<i>addā</i>	gathering place
<i>alām</i>	disturbed, insane, angry
<i>āmīr</i>	head or commander of army (organisation)
<i>Anjuman-i-Khadim-ul-Islam</i>	literally, 'the servants of Islam', a Muslim political outfit formed in the 1930s
Arya Samaj	a Hindu reform organisation
<i>asur</i>	demon
<i>aulyā</i>	Muslim saint
<i>azān</i>	call for <i>namāz</i>
<i>bābā</i>	literally grandfather, older man, religious and spiritual personalities
Bajrang Dal	a Hindu right-wing militant organisation
Baniya	a Hindu caste of merchants
<i>bārā</i>	courtyard, fence
<i>barkat</i>	blessing
<i>bāt</i>	conversation, dialogues, a poetic style in Mewat
<i>bhaicārā</i>	brotherhood
<i>bhajans</i>	religious songs
Bhapang	a music instrument of the Muslim Jogis in Mewat

<i>bhandārā</i>	religious feast
BJP	Bhartiya Janta Party, a right-wing Hindu political organisation
<i>bhagā-bhagī</i>	Partition event in Mewat
<i>bhakti</i>	devotion
<i>bidat/bidāh</i>	innovation/addition in Islamic teaching of the Quran and the Hadith
<i>Brajbhāṣā</i>	a dialect spoken in the parts of Mathura, Bharatpur, Hathras and Aligarh and Bulandsahar popularly known as the Braj area
<i>bujurg</i>	elder
Brahmin	a Hindu caste of priests
caste <i>pancāyat</i>	a council of caste not recognised by the government
<i>caddar/galeb</i>	a piece of cloth designated for graves
<i>caḍhaāvā</i>	offerings
<i>cālīsā</i>	mantras consisting of 40 hymns
<i>carpāi</i>	cot
<i>chhe bātein</i>	the six principles of the Hadith and the Quran
Chishti	a well-known lineage of Sufi saints
<i>cillā</i>	a 40-day Tablighi retreat in a mosque
<i>dādā</i>	grandfather, saint, respected elder
<i>dādī</i>	grandmother
<i>dāk-meorās</i>	the Meo postmen during the Mughal Period
Damrot	a Meo <i>pāl</i> /lineage
<i>dān</i>	gift, presentation
<i>dargāh</i>	a tomb of a Sufi saint
<i>darśan</i>	seeing a holy person or the image of a deity in Hinduism
<i>dāvāh</i>	invitation for discussion and debates in Islam
<i>dāvāt</i>	feast
<i>dharma</i>	religion/religious doctrines or moral duty

<i>dhikr/zikr/dhyān</i>	remembrance of Allah
<i>dīn</i>	religion
<i>dīnī</i>	religious life
<i>dohā</i>	couplets
<i>dohā-dhānī</i>	a form of classical music (see <i>rāg</i>)
<i>damru</i>	a small hand drum and a symbol of the god Shiva
<i>duhlot</i>	a Meo <i>pāl</i>
<i>Durood-ul-Sharif</i>	verses of the Quran recited at a grave
Īd	an Islamic festival
<i>ektārā</i>	a musical instrument made of one string
<i>fanā</i>	annihilation
<i>fakir</i>	Muslim vagabond ascetics; a Muslim caste of beggars
<i>fatvās</i>	legal rulings sanctioned by Islamic scholars (muftis)
<i>faujdar</i>	a Mughal garrison officer or police officer
<i>fitnā</i>	chaos
<i>gvāls</i>	stockmen/shepherds
<i>gotra</i>	lineage
<i>guru</i>	teacher
Hadith	the collection of the teachings and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad
<i>harām</i>	prohibitions in Islam
<i>harem</i>	domestic spaces meant for women only
<i>hujrā</i>	drawing rooms
<i>ijtemā</i>	Islamic congregation
<i>insān</i>	human
<i>itihās</i>	history
<i>irtidād</i>	apostasy
Jagga	a community of genealogists
<i>jāgrans</i>	all night-awake

<i>jajmānī</i>	a rural system of patron and client relationship; peasant castes always performed the role of patrons for service castes
<i>jalsā</i>	a congregation
<i>jamaat</i>	a group
<i>jamaatī</i>	members of the Tablighi Jamaat
<i>jātī</i>	caste
<i>jhālar</i>	furbelow
<i>Kabīrpanthī</i>	belonging to the sect of Kabir
<i>kabrā</i>	mausoleum
<i>kaccī sadak</i>	unmetalled road
<i>kākā</i>	uncle
<i>kalmā</i>	the lines of the Quran
<i>kalyug</i>	the last Hindu epoch of fours marked by disorder
<i>kamins</i>	services castes
<i>kāmiyā</i>	labourer or servant
<i>khidmattiyā</i>	bodyguards of royal emperors
<i>khudkāsht</i>	personal cultivation
<i>kirtan</i>	Hindu musical praying
<i>kṣatriya</i>	Hindu warrior caste-class
<i>madrasa</i>	an Islamic school primarily for imparting religious teachings
<i>mahāsabhās</i>	major associations
<i>makbarā</i>	tomb
<i>mālik</i>	master
<i>mandalī</i>	group
<i>markaj</i>	centre
<i>maulavis</i>	Islamic preachers
<i>melā</i>	festival
<i>mohallā</i>	parts of a town
Muharram	an occasion of mourning among Shia Muslims

<i>murids/khalifā/pīrjādgāns</i>	disciples
<i>mustaqīm</i>	a straight path; also interpreted as ‘the right path’ in Islam
Naga	Shaivite ascetics
<i>namāz</i>	Islamic prayer
Nath	Shaivite ascetic sect
<i>nizāmat</i>	district
<i>nirgun</i>	formless or without attributes
<i>niyat</i>	intention
<i>nuktāvalī</i>	collection of couplets
<i>pakkā</i>	solid; metallic
<i>pāl</i>	a Meo territorial unit
<i>pancāyat</i>	a local political body, meeting of elders
<i>panth</i>	a guru cult
<i>paramparā</i>	tradition/custom
<i>parivār pramukhs</i>	family heads
<i>pīr</i>	a term for Islamic (Sufi) saints
<i>pratik</i>	symbol
Purān	a Hindu religious text written in Sanskrit
<i>qavvālī</i>	a form of music associated with Sufi saints and sung at their <i>dargāhs</i>
<i>rājā</i>	a ruler
<i>rāg</i>	style of Indian classical music
Ramzān	an Islamic month of fasting
<i>ras</i>	sentiment
<i>rasiyā</i>	a vernacular form of music
<i>rojā</i>	fasting during the holy month of the Ramzān
RSS	Rasthriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (National Self-Help Group), a right-wing Hindu organisation
<i>sabadis</i>	sayings
<i>sādh</i>	Muslim priests and followers of Laldas

<i>sādhu</i>	sage
<i>safāyā</i>	clearing up
<i>saguṇ</i>	with attributes or physical qualities
<i>sajrā</i>	ancestry in Mewat
<i>samādhi</i>	a state of intense concentration achieved through meditation. In yoga, the final stage, at which union with the divine is reached (before or at death)
<i>samprādāy</i>	religious order/religious path/sect/cult
<i>sant</i>	saint
<i>sarpanc</i>	village headman
<i>sāmpradāyik sadbhāv</i>	communal harmony
<i>Shivkathā</i>	the tale of Shiva
<i>silsilās</i>	Sufi saintly lineages
<i>śāyar</i>	poet
<i>shirk</i>	association/polytheism
<i>shobhā yātrā</i>	pageantries/ritual procession
<i>śuddhī</i>	purification, conversion, a purified community
<i>shudra</i>	low caste-class Hindus
<i>srāddha</i>	a Hindu ritual performed to pay homage to one's deceased parents and ancestors
Sufi	Islamic mystic saints, a Muslim individual who practises <i>tasavvuf</i> or mysticism
<i>surā</i>	the section/verses of the Quran
<i>svadeshi</i>	homemade
<i>svāstikā</i>	the Hindu symbol of auspiciousness
Tabligh	Mission for Islamic preaching
<i>tāntric</i>	related to Hindu esoteric traditions
<i>tapas</i>	heat
<i>tapasyā</i>	meditation
<i>taqqiyā</i>	concealing the true identity
<i>taqreer</i>	religious discourses and reasoning

<i>tawhid</i>	oneness of God
<i>tehsil</i>	a Division of a district for administrative purposes in India
<i>tyāg</i>	abandoning
<i>ulemā</i>	an Islamic scholar
<i>ummāh</i>	concept of community in Islam
<i>ustād</i>	an Urdu term for teacher or master
<i>vāt</i>	epic or tale
<i>vrat</i>	vow, fasting tales
VHP	Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Council), a right-wing Hindu organisation
Vyās	a Brahmin priest skilled in narrating religious tales
<i>waḥdat al-wujūd</i>	unity of being/god
<i>yagna</i>	Hindu sacrificial rituals around a fire altar
<i>yātrās</i>	pilgrimage/processions
<i>yogi</i>	a meditator, religious person or mendicant
<i>zannat</i>	heaven
<i>zuhr</i>	midday Islamic prayer