

# PASSPORT *to the* WORLD



*Your A to Z Guided  
Language Tour*

**By Craig Froman**

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# HOW TO USE YOUR PASSPORT BOOK

Welcome to the start of an incredible language journey around the world! Your book is set up by various world languages, organized A to Z. You will cross countries and continents, all the while in the comfort of your own living room, car, or backyard tent!

**1 Language:** Here you will find the specific language focus of the country you are visiting. This may be the primary language of the country, or it may be a special language that only a few people speak in the world!

**2 Country:** This is the name of the specific nation you are visiting. Most of the facts listed will relate to the country, not necessarily the language spoken. Learn insights about cultural and traditional customs, as well as how to fit in when you stay.

**3 Country fast facts:** Here you can quickly find out details about the country, including its flag, size in square miles, how many people live there, how long the average person lives, how many can read and write based on those age 15 and over, Internet information, and what kind of money the people use. Find the highlighted country and its capital city, as well as where it is in relation to neighboring countries or oceans.

**1** **KOREAN**  
A language spoken in  
**2** **SOUTH KOREA**

**3** **COUNTRY FAST FACTS**

Population: 48,636,068  
Life Expectancy: 78.72 years  
Literacy: 97.9%  
Internet Users: 35,590,000  
Internet Code: .kr  
Monetary Unit: South Korean won

Square Miles: 61,963  
A little bit bigger than Indiana

**5** **SPEAKING KOREAN**

Hello: Annyeong (an nyong)  
Goodbye: Annyeonghi kashipshio (an nyong hi kashipshio) (an nyong hi kashipshio) (an nyong hi kashipshio)  
Thank you: Kamsahamnida (come sam needah)  
Peace: Phyeongh'wa (pea young wah)

**4** **Greeting from a friend:** Hello from South Korea! Here there are over 48,000,000 people, most of whom speak Korean. Look at the map and you will see our capital city of Seoul. Its name simply means "the capital" in Korean! Though there are many Protestants, Roman Catholics, and Buddhists here, almost 50 percent of our country does not claim any religion. Kamsahamnida for your visit! Find phyeongh'wa today.

Annyeonghi kashipshio.

**4** **Greeting from a friend:** Read a welcome from a friend to learn more about the country, as well as to see how the words from the language are used.

**5** **Speaking the language:** Learn how to say hello, goodbye, thank you, and peace in a specific language used in that country.

**6** **Money:** See images of the country's currency.

**11** **Current picture:** This picture shows what the people look like in their everyday clothing.

**12** **Images:** See items that are found in the specific country you're visiting and mentioned in the Did You Know? section.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**9** The Korean alphabet was created by King Sejong in 1446 by King Sejong. It is celebrated on October 9th and we call it Hangeul Day.

It is tradition in our culture to consider a child as one year of age at the time of his or her birth.

Kimchi, which consists of vegetables that have been fermented along with various seasonings, is a very common dish here in Korea.

If you are invited to a house to eat, it is polite to remove your shoes once inside the home of your host. You'll want to wait to be told just where you should sit, and those who are oldest are always served first and begin to eat first. If you can eat with chopsticks, make sure you set them down on the table after so many bites, or if you talk or take a drink. And remember, you should not eat food with your hands. It's not considered polite!

**7** **Country proverb:** Read a common saying that comes from that nation.

**8** **Traditional picture:** This picture most often shows someone dressed in one of the traditional or customary outfits of the nation or a specific people group in the nation.

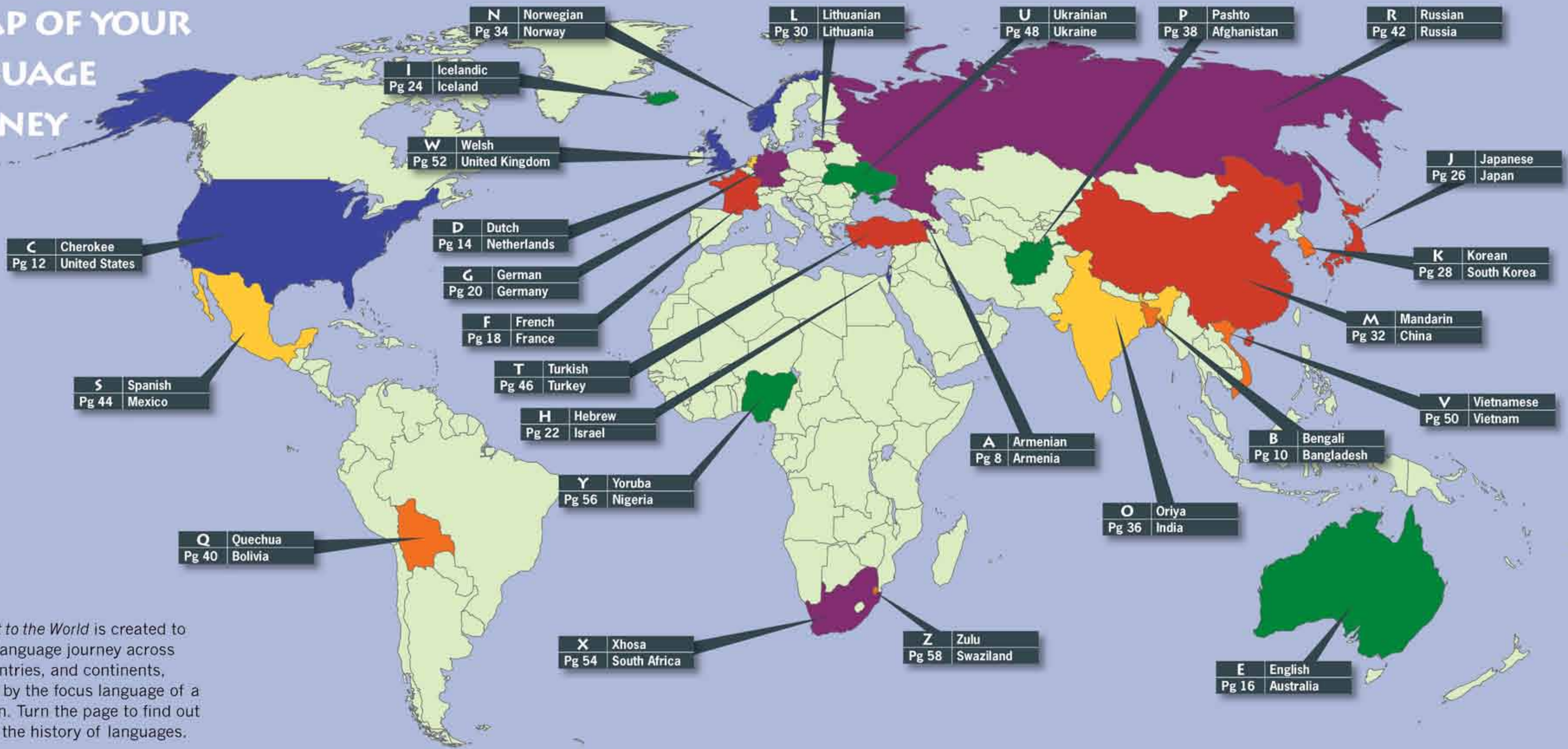
**9** **Did you know?:** Here you will learn interesting facts about each country or language.

**10** **Geographic picture:** This picture shows a little something interesting about the country, its cities, mountains, lakes, and more.

**10** The president's house in South Korea is called the Blue House, which was built on the site where our government leadership has been since around A.D. 1100. It is a part of an extensive complex of buildings and gardens.

**7** **Cast no dirt into the well that gives you water.**  
Korean Proverb

# A MAP OF YOUR LANGUAGE JOURNEY



Your *Passport to the World* is created to be a unique language journey across cultures, countries, and continents, alphabetized by the focus language of a chosen nation. Turn the page to find out a little about the history of languages.

Language Letter	Focus Language
Page Number	Focus Country

# HISTORY OF LANGUAGES

## WHERE OUR STORY BEGINS...

Just over 4,000 years ago, most people lived on a plain in Shinar, which would have been located in what is now called the Middle East. Though God wanted them to fill the earth (Genesis 9:1), they were determined to stay and build a tower to show how great they were. Here is the account of where it all started.

## THE TOWER OF BABEL

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

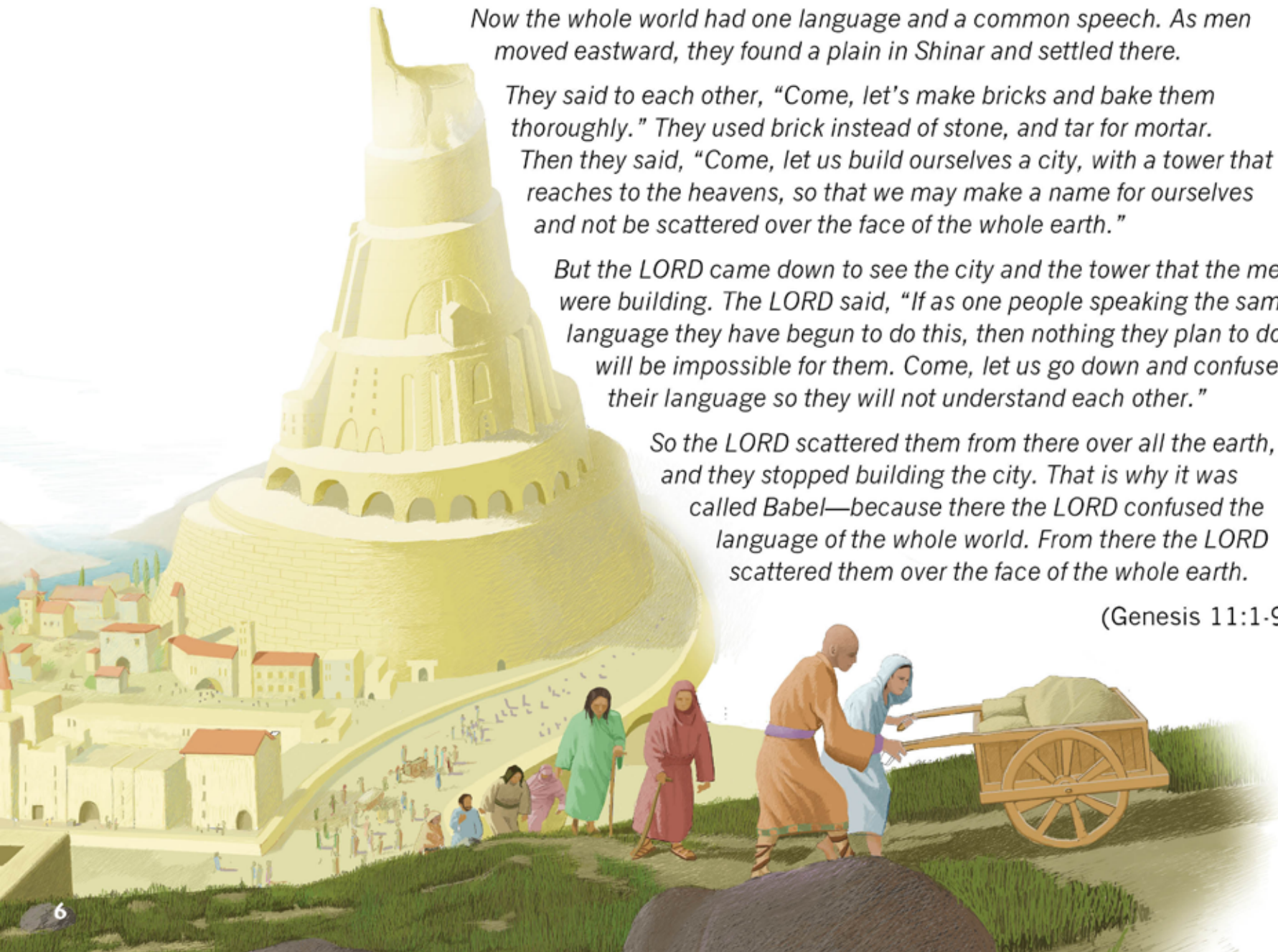
They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar.

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

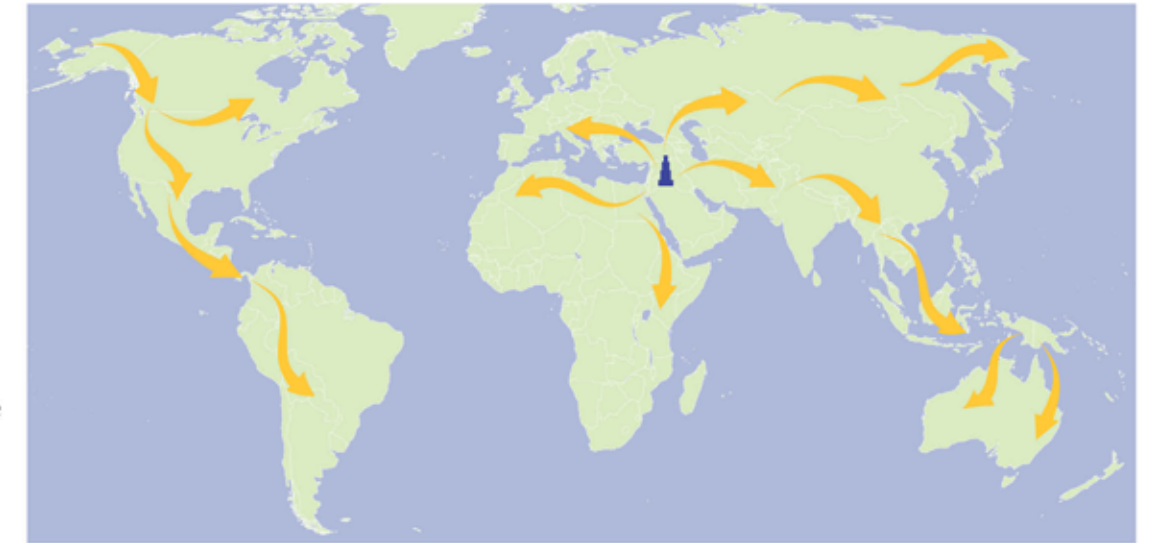
So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

(Genesis 11:1-9)



## LANGUAGE FAMILIES

After their languages were changed, all these people (listed in Genesis Chapter 10) began to move off with those they could best communicate with (their families). These language families have now spread throughout the world, and though languages have continued to change, we tend to relate best to those we share a common speech with.



Migration of the people from Shinar

From those who came from the Tower of Babel between 6,800 and 6,900 languages have arisen, over 2,200 of which have a written form. Also, many languages are spoken by people outside the country that is known for it, and many speak another language as a secondary one.

## FILLING THE EARTH

Language groups spread out across the lands, now covering the world, even a few researchers in Antarctica! The seven areas we call continents are from largest in size to smallest: Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia.



The Seven Continents

## WHERE OUR STORY WILL END

One day, God will gather His people together from every nation and language group:

*"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."*

(Revelation 7:9)

## LET'S GO!

Now, let's find out where 26 distinct languages from A to Z are spoken! Grab your passport and let's get ready, steady, and go!

# ARMENIAN

*A language spoken in*  
**ARMENIA**



The region of Ararat is the highest mountain range in the country. This is the area where Noah's ark came to rest after the Flood.

- ### DID YOU KNOW?
- If you need to find a place that serves sandwiches or coffee, look for a chasharan. It's what you might say is a typical café, Armenian style. And try not to yawn while talking to the people who are there. It's considered very rude!
  - If you like fruit, the apricots grown here are considered the best tasting in the world! And if you fancy some dessert, the bakeries, called entrikners, sell the usual cakes and cookies, as well as traditional walnut and honey treats and Christmas pastries called gata.
  - The Armenian language has borrowed many words from Greek, Persian, Russian, and Turkish.
  - Since about A.D. 400 we have had our own distinct language and alphabet.
  - They have found ancient cuneiform writings here that use pictures to communicate, rather than letters. This shows just how long ago people have lived here!

## COUNTRY FAST FACTS



**Population:**  
2,966,802

**Life Expectancy:**  
72.68 years

**Literacy:**  
99.4%

**Internet Users:**  
172,800

**Internet Code:**  
.am

**Monetary Unit:**  
Drams

**Square Miles:** 18,481  
Slightly smaller than Maryland

### SPEAKING ARMENIAN

**Hello:** Pavev (paw rev)

**Goodbye:** Tsedesutyun (se dess you toon)

**Thank you:** Shnorhagallem (snore hey gall em)

**Peace:** Khanaghutyun (can agg yoot yoon)



**Pavev!**

That is how we say "hello" here in Armenia. Shnorhagallem for coming by! Armenian is spoken by approximately six million people around the world. Nearly half of those live in my country, which has a population of 2,966,802. Look closely at the map of my country and you will see Yerevan. This is our capital city, and is one of the oldest cities in the world. We were the first nation to adopt Christianity, way back in the 4th century! Our major religions are Armenian Apostolic, Christian, and Yezidi.

Khanaghutyun to you.

Tsedesutyun, friend!!!



# BENGALI

A language spoken in

## BANGLADESH



### DID YOU KNOW?

- All of our Bengali literature was in rhymed verse if written prior to the 19th century.
- Bangladesh has a coastal mangrove forest, which is part of the Sundarbans National Park, and is one of the largest such forests in the world.
- The Nobel Peace Prize was given to the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh for its help in providing assistance to many of the poor in the country, especially many of our impoverished women.
- The people here eat a lot of fish and rice, and sometimes because of rice farming, weather, and other natural conditions, as much as 80 percent of our land can be covered in water. Also, we use a lot of spices to flavor our food, but some favorites include coriander, cumin, garlic, ginger, and turmeric.

### COUNTRY FAST FACTS



Square Miles: 89,476  
A little smaller than Iowa



**Population:**  
158,065,841

**Life Expectancy:**  
60.25 years

**Literacy:**  
47.9%

**Internet Users:**  
500,000

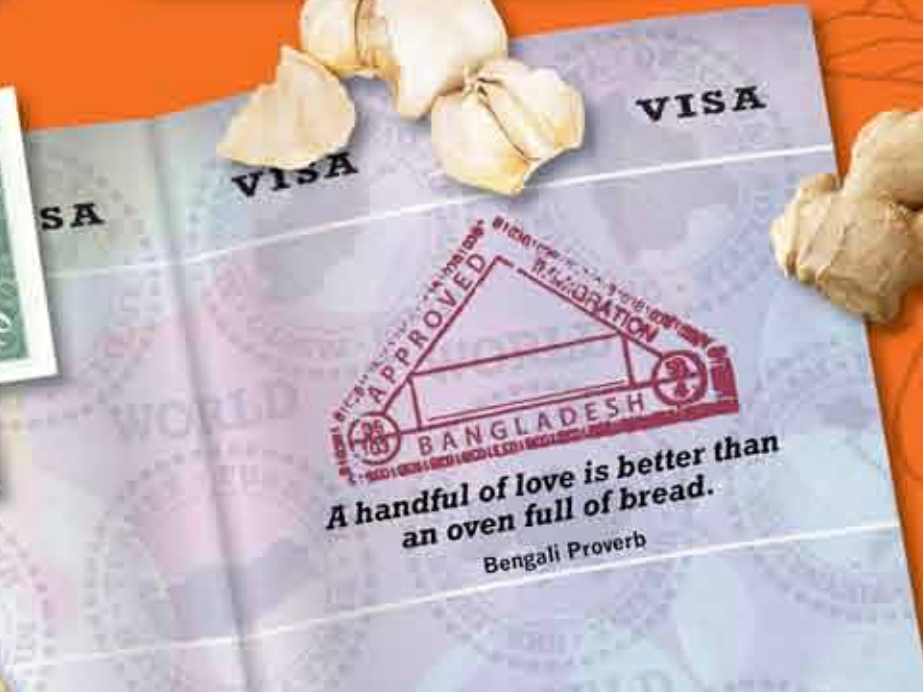
**Internet Code:**  
.bd

**Monetary Unit:**  
Taka

### SPEAKING BENGALI

**Hello:** Nomoskar (no mo scar)  
**Goodbye:** Accha (ah cha)  
**Thank you:** Dhanyabad (doon yaw bawd)  
**Peace:** Shanti (shawn tee)

Our country, known officially as the Republic of Bangladesh, became recognized as a nation in 1971. The word "Bengali" in English relates to all of us who speak the language, as well as to the language itself.



#### Nomoskar!

Saying hello from Bangladesh!  
 I speak Bengali, along with over 200 million other people from around the world, about half of whom live here in my country. If you look in the center of the map you can see our capital city, Dhaka. Here in our country we have 158,065,841 people, and the major religions are Muslim, Hindu, and a few others. We are known for our wonderful teas that we ship around the world. Dhanyabad for stopping by! Shanti to you and your family.

Accha, friend!!!

