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CEO/Publisher  
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## Pakistan: Cultural Overview

As the country's official name clearly suggests, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan is governed legally, socially and culturally by an amalgamation of Islamic law and customs. Pakistani society firmly believes in upholding traditional family values, although the country's youth have adopted some Western customs, most notably the celebration of certain holidays. Some Pakistanis mourn the gradual loss of national culture and identity that the imported holidays represent.

**Cultural diversity** is reflected in the name Pakistan, an acronym for "Punjab," "Afghania," "Kashmir," "Sindh," "Balochistan" with an "I" added for the English pronunciation. Pakistan is made up of many ethnic groups joined primarily by Islam. Many tribal areas in mountainous Pakistan are still out of the direct control of the central government. Urdu and English are the official languages, but several provincial languages, including Punjabi, Pashtu, Sindhi and Sariaki are spoken.

**Religion** plays a vital role in the lives of most Pakistanis. Islam rules the everyday lives of middle- and lower-class people, particularly in the rural areas, although its influence is weaker among upper-class, urban Pakistanis. While the upper elite drink alcohol at private parties and allow women to hold jobs, such practices are overwhelmingly disapproved of in rural areas. Young people have increasingly adopted some Western holidays, most notably Valentine's Day and Halloween, that appeal to their sense of fun. These holidays have long lost any religious significance, but some Islamic groups are outraged by their encroachment on Pakistani society.

**Cultural conflict** persists in Pakistan. Rivalries between militant Sunni and Shia factions frequently result in violence. In addition, a number of extremist groups within Pakistan continue to target American and other Western interests, high-level Pakistani government officials, and members of minority indigenous and religious groups.

**Pakistani women** have been traditionally relegated to the four walls of their homes, but times are changing. Many urban women are actively employed, and a large percentage of rural women participate in the agricultural sector. Arranged marriages remain the norm, and it is unthinkable for women to remain unmarried throughout their lives. Pakistan is one of the few places where honor killings, allowing a man to kill a relative who indulges in "un-Islamic" activities, are still practiced.

**Pakistani cuisine** is similar to North Indian food. Spicy meat curries in rich sauces are traditional mainstays eaten with either rice or flatbreads. Alcohol and pork are completely prohibited in Pakistan, in keeping with the country's Islamic beliefs. However, non-Muslims can obtain alcohol in limited quantities, and even many Muslims break this law with impunity. Sharing tea is a fundamental element of hospitality and a bridge to building relationships, the key to any successful project in this region of the world.




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### Cross-Cultural Conflict Resolution through Role Play #1 (Time Maximum) Introductions around the World: Practicing Global Etiquette

- **Grades:** 10
- **Time:** Four 90-minute classes
- **Featured Resources:** AtoZWorldCulture.com articles Maps, Country Snapshot, Cultural Overview, The People, Greetings and Courtesies, and Language.
- **Skills:** Students *read* articles on the cultures and greeting rituals of countries around the world; *learn* how to introduce themselves in informal settings in their countries of choice; *practice* introducing themselves appropriately while *collaborating* with classmates; *perform* a chosen country's introduction ritual for their classmates and *articulate* the cultural values that are expressed in the introduction etiquette; *take notes* throughout this process on their responses to various introduction rituals; and *write* personal essays about the differences and similarities between the etiquette they just learned and what their own cultural backgrounds have taught them.
- **Activities:**
  - All Activities in Class
  - Writing: First Drafts Only
  - Writing: Reflective
  - Presentation/Performance
  - Group Collaboration
  - Independent Work
  - Reading and Research

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### Cross-Cultural Conflict Resolution through Role Play #1 (Time Middle) Introductions around the World: Practicing Global Etiquette

- **Grades:** 10
- **Time:** Three 90-minute classes plus homework essay assignment
- **Featured Resources:** AtoZWorldCulture.com articles Maps, Country Snapshot, Cultural Overview, The People, Greetings and Courtesies, and Language.
- **Skills:** Students *read* articles on the cultures and greeting rituals of countries around the world; *learn* how to introduce themselves in informal settings in their countries of choice; *practice* introducing themselves appropriately while *collaborating* with classmates; *perform* a chosen country's introduction ritual for their classmates and *articulate* the cultural values that are expressed in the introduction etiquette; *take notes* throughout this process on their responses to various introduction rituals; and *write* personal essays about the differences and similarities between the etiquette they just learned and what their own cultural backgrounds have taught them.
- **Activities:**
  - Out-of-Class Homework
  - Writing: First Drafts Only
  - Writing: Reflective
  - Presentation/Performance
  - Group Collaboration
  - Independent Work
  - Reading and Research

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## Austria: Country Snapshot

### The Land

This landlocked, central European country has a rugged forest terrain, with the Austrian Alps rising to nearly 3,800 meters (12,500 ft) and dominating the country's interior. The rest of the country is hilly, with numerous valleys to the north of the Danube, except for the low-lying plains in the east around Vienna. Austria has a temperate continental climate, with cold, rainy winters and moderate summers. The prevailing westerly winds drop heavier rainfall in the western part of the country, which may receive an annual rainfall of 1,000 millimeters (40 in). The eastern region is drier and has a more continental climate.

### The People

Ethnic Austrians comprise over 91 percent of the population. Other significant groups include Turks (1.6 percent) living mostly in Vienna and ethnic Germans (0.9 percent). Former Yugoslavs constitute four percent of the population, and include Bosniaks (from Bosnia and Herzegovina), who reside primarily in the larger cities, Slovenes living mainly in Kärnten, and Croats living chiefly in Burgenland.

German is the official language, the mother tongue of 88.6 percent of Austrians, and is spoken almost universally. Several dialects, most of which are not understood in most of the country, are spoken. Other official languages include Slovenian (in the south), Serbian (2.2 percent), and Croatian (1.6 percent). In addition, Italian and Hungarian are official languages in certain regions.

Over 90 percent of Austrians are Roman Catholic, as well as 1.6 percent are Protestant. The Islamic faith is the second largest religion, with 4.6 percent of the population being Muslim. The Jewish population is tiny, with only 15,000 people remaining in Austria after the Holocaust.



The Austrian Alps cover nearly two-thirds of the country, reaching heights of 3,800 meters (12,500 ft).



The historic city of Salzburg draws tourists year-round with its engaging cityscape and rich cultural offerings.

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- Cultural Overview
- Country Snapshot

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## Bolivia: Geography

### Land Mass Total

Total: 1,098,581 sq km  
Land: 1,083,301 sq km  
Water: 15,280 sq km

### Land

1,084,390 sq km (418,685 sq mi)

### Water

14,190 sq km (5,478 sq mi)

### Land Boundaries

Total: 6,940 km  
Border countries: Argentina 832 km, Brazil 3,423 km, Chile 860 km, Paraguay 750 km, Peru 1,075 km

### Coastline

0 km (landlocked)

### Maritime claim

None (landlocked)

### Climate/Weather

Varies with altitude; humid and tropical to cold and semiarid

### Terrain


Rugged Andes Mountains with a highland plateau (Altiplano), hills, lowland plains of the Amazon Basin

### Elevation extremes


Lowest point: Rio Paraguay 90 m  
Highest point: Nevado Sajama 6,542 m

### Natural Resources


Natural resources: Tin, natural gas, petroleum, zinc, tungsten, antimony, silver, iron, lead, gold, timber, hydropower




Bolivian Altiplano region of the base of the Andes.



Bygnat Stewart



Saint Charles's Church in the capital city of Vienna represents the country's largest catholic population.



Austria enjoys world renown for its music, theater, and opera productions and associated cultural festivals.

# Country Data

- Demographics
- Economy and Trade
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## Japan: Gift Giving

### General

Gift giving is part and parcel of everyday Japanese life. Gifts are a way for the Japanese to express their social obligations ( *giri* ), and thus become conveyances of honor and duty. Generally, the symbolic giving of a gift is more important than the gift's value. The most important aspect in Japanese gift-giving is the ritual play of duty and appreciation. Both parties strive to appear humble, and the recipient flatters the giver's thoughtfulness and good taste.

Japanese culture places much importance on presentation, as such, rumpled or second-hand gifts are not appreciated, while beautifully wrapped parcels and branded gift bags are. Gifts are given and received with both hands and a slight bow.



The symbolism of giving is more important than the gift.

### Hospitality Gifts

Even during a casual visit, the Japanese always bring a small present, like some fruit or a cake. High-quality chocolates or other sweets make a good hospitality gift. Cut flowers are usually welcome, but lilies, lotus blossoms, camellias, and all white flowers are reserved for funerals. A small bonsai is also acceptable, but other potted plants are avoided as they are thought to encourage sickness. If the host has children, guests usually bring a gift for them.



Hosts appreciate edible gifts.

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## Cambodia: Greetings and Courtesies

### General

Cambodian greetings are defined by traditional Khmer culture and its stress upon hierarchies of age and social standing. Personal pride and respect are thought to flow from observing such gradations. Social exchanges are characterized by smiles all round and it is crucial that a cheery atmosphere is maintained at all times. Buddhist doctrines of hospitality mean that guests are always deferred to in Cambodian greetings and courtesies.



Social exchanges are characterized by a cheery atmosphere.

### Informal Greetings

When greeting friends or family members, Cambodian men use a mild, two-handed handshake (the right wrist supported by the left hand), while women typically give a slight bow. Some younger men familiar with the foreign media have adopted the firm, Western-style handshake. During greetings, Cambodians tend not to make eye contact—especially with older or socially superior people—as this can be construed as nosy and confrontational. When a friendship has evolved between two Cambodian men, it is common that one will lead the other by the hand or arm in informal social contexts.



When greeting friends or family members, Cambodian men use a mild, two-handed handshake, while women typically give a slight bow.

Cambodians who know one another well use given names and the greeting, *Sua sdei* (Hello), followed by *Sokh sabbye tay* (How are you?). An apt response to this is, *Khnyohm sohk sabbye* (I'm fine). To introduce oneself, one states, *Khnyom ichmouh* \_\_\_\_ (My name is \_\_\_\_). To inquire about someone else's name, one can say, *Dea neh cimuh ey?* (What is your name?).

At the end of an informal encounter, a Cambodian says, *Joom-reap leah* (Goodbye) or *Som loh* (Excuse me), to which an interlocutor might respond, *Oh-koon* (Thanks).

### Formal Greetings

A more formal Cambodian greeting is the traditional *sampeah* gesture of clasping one's hands together while bowing. This is used by both men and women. The bow is lower and the hands raised higher when meeting an older or more senior person. In formal group situations, elders are usually introduced first while everyone else stands up out of deference.



A more formal Cambodian greeting is the traditional *sampeah* gesture of clasping one's hands together while bowing.

Cambodians place their surname before their given name. A polite form of address is the honorific *Lok* for men and *Lok Srey* for women, followed by the person's surname or both the surname and given name. Foreign dignitaries tend to be addressed as "Mr." or "Miss," followed by their surname.

A Cambodian uses the formal greeting, *Johm riab sua* (I-Hello). Other pleasantries are identical to those for informal situations, apart from bidding farewell which can be expressed thusly: *Arum sour sdei* (Good morning), *Tiveah sour sdei* (Good afternoon), or *Reah-trey sour sdeib* (Goodnight).

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## China: Women in Business

### General View

Chinese women's contribution to the economy is immense, as they comprise nearly 47 percent of the workforce. One-fifth of all Chinese entrepreneurs are women, and over 40 percent of those work in the private sector. Changes in social and cultural attitudes, supported by effective legislation, have enabled women to enter the labor force and sometimes achieve high-level decision-making positions. In China, women are believed to be particularly fair and flexible, which makes them preferred supervisors in most sectors, including many traditionally considered male domains.



Chinese women have benefited from changes in social and cultural attitudes toward women in the workplace.

### Legal Rights

Women in China have the same rights to education, employment, inheritance, and property as men. They are specifically entitled to an equal share of family property under the Inheritance Law. Women have also been granted additional rights to protect their interests in the workplace. Though they are guaranteed equal pay for equal work, women's wages are around 70 percent of men's wages. Women are also more likely to be laid off or become unemployed than men.

### Women in Professions

Traditionally, Chinese women were engaged in the agricultural sector, which still employs a majority of the population. Rural industry, including small-scale and household industries like producing handicrafts, employs around 85 million people, of which 40 percent are women. A majority of urban women work in the service sector. About 10 percent of women work as doctors, lawyers, accountants, and engineers. About 15 percent of professional and technical workers are women. Women work in government in relatively

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## New Zealand: Time Orientation

### Perception of Time

New Zealanders of European descent perceive time as a line beginning at some point in the past and progressing into the future. This contrasts, however, with the Maori view, in which time propels cycles of birth, growth, death, and rebirth. New Zealand's society combines the long-term oriented characteristics of frugality and persistence with the short-term oriented traits of personal stability and reciprocation of favors.



Punctuality prevails in most aspects of life.

### Traditional Calendar

The Maori traditionally used the lunar-based Maramataka calendar, which combines a solar year with 12 lunar months, and focuses on agricultural and hunting/gathering seasons. Months were named for stars and constellations, and a 13th month was sometimes added to accommodate for the lunar cycle's falling 11 days short of a solar year. Due to variances between different tribes' calendars—some tribes had only 10 months with two "extras", and some began the year at different times—the calendar was revived in 1990, with the lunar months dropped in favor of solar months bearing the traditional names.

### Modern Calendar


New Zealand uses the solar-based Gregorian calendar, first introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 to better accommodate the timing of Roman Catholic holidays. This calendar centers around the nativity of Jesus Christ, using a system in which each successive year before and after this event is numbered in ascending order. The years prior to the nativity are followed by BC (Before Christ), and those after it by AD (for Anno Domini, Latin for "in the year of our Lord"). This wording is often altered to BCE (Before Current Era) and CE (Current Era) in the modern age to incorporate people of other religious persuasions. Both continuums begin with the number one.

### Calendar Influence

New Zealand's calendar year is propelled by the Christian liturgical calendar and national holidays.

### Attitude Toward Time

The casual attitude toward many aspects of life does not carry over into the nation's attitude toward time. New Zealanders consider punctuality an important aspect of their culture, and something which propels society forward. Strongly monochronic, they set time aside for each task and complete one thing at a time. The prevailing attitude is that visitors should arrive punctually for both social and business functions as locals do. The country's excellent transportation and communications infrastructures support this punctuality, making it generally easy to stay on schedule.



Transportation runs in a timely fashion.

# Culture

- Stereotypes
- Superstitions and Folklore
- Time Orientation
- Women in Business
- Women in Culture



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## Belgium: National Cuisine

### National Cuisine

#### Overview

Belgian cuisine, though it has many similarities to French cuisine and uses many of the same ingredients and cooking techniques, has its own distinctive Flemish accent. Seafood is commonly consumed, but so are meats and poultry of all kinds. Vegetables like endive, leeks, carrots, celery, and many others commonly feature in soups, salads, and stews. Seasoning is often subtle. Onion, garlic, bay, parsley, and thyme are among the most commonly used herbs, though others may be used depending on the dish. Spices are less common and are likely to be reserved for sweets like gingerbread cookies. Belgium is a cold country, so many dishes are quite rich and include bacon, cream, or egg yolk. Although seasonal produce is less of an issue today, there is still a strong desire to eat foods in season, for example watercress and strawberries in the spring, or endive in the summer.



Belgian chocolate

#### Classic Belgian Dishes

##### APPETIZERS

**Tomates aux Crevettes** — Tomatoes stuffed with shrimp salad are a common appetizer in Belgium. The dish is very simply prepared, and relies on the quality of the ingredients, especially the North Sea shrimp, for flavor. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*



Tomates aux Crevettes

##### SOUPS

**Potage au Cresson** — Cream of watercress soup is a common appetizer, but can also be a light main course when watercress is in season. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*

**Crème de Crevettes** — A shrimp and cream soup flavored with brandy, this soup is usually a first course. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*



Crème de Crevettes

##### SALADS

**Salade Liégeoise** — A string bean, potato, and bacon salad, commonly served as an appetizer or a light meal. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*

**Salade du Pêcheur** — This sturdy Flemish salad features smoked fish and root vegetables. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*

##### MAIN DISHES

**Moules** — Belgian mussels are almost always served with fried potatoes called *frites*. Normally, mussels are steamed in white wine, which may be flavored with herbs, liqueurs, or cream. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*

**Waterzooï** — A classic chicken, or occasionally fish, casserole in a cream sauce further enriched with egg yolk, associated with Ghent.

**Chicken Braised in Beer with Belgian Endives** — This popular one-dish meal is a favorite when endives are in season. It is usually served with steamed potatoes and fresh, crusty bread.

**Poulet a la Biere** — A very typical Belgian chicken stew. Although it is beer-based like *carbonnades flamandes* (below), this chicken dish includes more vegetables and herbs to make a more complex, French-influenced dish. *(Recipe available in recipes section)*



Poulet a la Biere

**Flemische aux Chicons** — A Flemish savory flan or quiche made with cheese and chicory.

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# Food and Recipes

➤ National Cuisine

➤ Recipes



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## Italy: Recipes

### Recipes

#### Bruschetta (Appetizer)

Tuscan bruschetta are toasted bread with a savory topping, usually served with the pre-meal aperitif and before the actual first course. The most common bruschetta is made with a simple fresh-tomato salad.

**Recipe Serving:** Serves 8-10



Bruschetta

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 loaf Italian bread, sliced 1/2-inch (1 1/4 cm) thick
- 4 cloves garlic, halved
- 1/3 cup (80 ml) olive oil
- 5 tomatoes, peeled, seeded, chopped, and drained
- Salt and pepper to taste

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Season tomatoes with salt and pepper to taste. Set aside.
2. Toast bread on both sides until crisp.
3. Rub 1 side of each slice with 1/2 a garlic clove.
4. Brush each toast with olive oil.
5. Spread a spoonful of tomato on top of each toast.
6. Serve immediately.

#### Bagna Cauda (Appetizer)

*Bagna cauda* is a hot anchovy-flavored sauce from the Piedmont region of Italy, normally served with *cruquettes*. In the local dialect, the name means "warm sauce".

**Recipe Serving:** Serves 4-6



Bagna Cauda

#### INGREDIENTS

- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 1/2 oz (45 ml) butter, melted
- 4 oz (120 ml) anchovies, chopped
- Pepper
- 1 cup (240 ml) olive oil

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Sauté garlic and anchovy in oil, stirring constantly until anchovies disintegrate.
2. Add butter and season with pepper to taste.
3. Serve immediately with vegetables and bread for dipping. If possible, keep warm over a small burner at the table.

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## Brazil: Music

### Music

A distinguishing feature of Brazil is that it is the only Portuguese-speaking republic to occupy the longest north-south landmass on the planet, the Americas. The Portuguese language first arrived along with European customs and dances on a ship commanded by Pedro Álvares Cabral in the year 1500, with the consequence that the largest country in South America would become colonized quickly, and remain under Portugal's rule until the late 19th century.

But European musical influences are only one aspect of Brazil's culture: the country's multifarious styles draw on music and instruments from Africa, and acknowledge indigenous identity in the central west and north. Perhaps best-known to the wider world is **samba**, which developed as the sound and motion of **Carnaval**—with rival permutations in the northeast (Salvador de Bahia) and southeast (Rio de Janeiro).



Maracatu is an Afro-Brazilian performance genre.

### Into the Great Wide Open: Afro-Brazilian Religion

In Brazil a **terreiro** refers to a sacralized outdoor space, perhaps formerly the wide yard where coffee was dried on slave plantations, but now used for **Candomblé**, an African-derived religion that is the catalyst for ceremonies featuring call-and-response vocals with trance-inducing percussion, there are 1,155 *terreiros de Candomblé* in Salvador, the largest city on the northeast coast. Rio de Janeiro in the 1930s cultivated another Afro-Brazilian religion called **Umbanda**, a combination of African spirit possession and Allan Kardec Spiritism with Roman Catholicism, and the corresponding music adopts the ubiquitous **samba** but allows for continually evolving musical ceremonies.

### Sequins and Grooves, Southern and Northern

Over 75,000 observers each year will have purchased tickets to see Brazilian Carnival in all of its glory, the spectacle of music and dance that occurs roughly a month and a half prior to Easter, including the **Samba Parade**, which runs for the duration of two days in Rio de Janeiro. The parade proudly exhibits the country's ethnic heritage with giant-sized human heads on floats, with indigenous garment representation, with dazzling costume colors and elaborate headdresses, with gyrating dancers exposing skin (and racial diversity)—all fueled by the rhythms of **samba**. When José Nogueira de Azevedo, a cobbler, began organizing parades in the mid-19th century, he could not have imagined that many millions of television spectators would behold such a consequence of his efforts.



Samba Parade

The pre-Lent Carnival in the northeast of the country is a colossal, thumping street party harboring **axé**, among other Afro-Brazilian music styles such as **afoxé**, and the festivities get under way in the city of Salvador after weeks of rehearsal and preparation. Contrast the scale of this event with the fact that in 1905 much public display of African dance, music or costume was prohibited by Salvador law. The genre of **axé** is a blend of the **frevo Pernambuco** genre with **calypso**, **forró**, **reggae**, and the **maracatu** of the city of Recife. The central attractions at Carnival in the Bahia state are those music makers who perform atop the **trios elétricos**, a type of float with amplification invented in the 1950s; while **samba** and **frevo** are present as part of the proceedings, **axé**—and to a lesser extent Bahian **pagode**—predominate the scene.

## Traditional Forms

### From Shanty Towns to Carnegie Hall

The set of dances that together comprise **samba** originated in the Bahia region in the late 19th century, owing a debt to the footwork and imagination of African slaves and their descendants; today **samba** is heard in every corner of the country, taught in schools, exhibited in competition at Carnival, and Brazil as a nation recognizes the style every December 2. A group of those initial Bahian musicians drifted to Rio de Janeiro in the early 20th century where their new sound spread rapidly through neighborhoods; after the first **samba** bounced off walls of a recording studio in 1917 ("Pelo Telefone"), the music began to attract composers whose writing efforts promoted the form. With the advent of radio in the next decade, every urban center acquired the presence of **samba**. Although Brazil became a military dictatorship for over two decades after 1964, the traditional beat of **samba** was not silenced. In 2005 the **samba de roda** event was named by the United Nations as among the "Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity."



The samba de roda event

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# Music

- Origin and Influences
- Traditional Forms
- Instrumentation
- Regional and Ethnic Forms
- Contemporary Currents



Ancient Mayan flutes  
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## Brazil: National Bird

Rufous-bellied Thrush (common name)  
*Turdus rufiventris* (scientific name)

### DESIGNATION

Official

### CLASSIFICATION

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

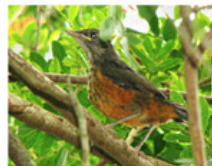
Family: Turdidae

Genus: *Turdus*

Species: *T. rufiventris*



Rufous-bellied thrush



Juvenile rufous-bellied thrush



Female rufous-bellied thrush on nest



Eggs of the rufous-bellied thrush

### THE BIRD

The rufous-bellied thrush is a small bird named for its distinctive burnt-orange belly. The bird can reach a length of 25 centimeters (9.8 in.), and females usually weigh more than males. Both sexes are a brownish-gray with a white, dark-streaked throat, yellow eye rings, and long, slender legs. They range from southeast Brazil through to Paraguay, Uruguay, and adjacent parts of Bolivia and Argentina. In the warmer months, the rufous-bellied thrush inhabits southern Brazil's cooler climate, and in winter it migrates north to tropical zones. Thrushes eat insects, spiders, worms, and fruit (oranges, papayas, avocados, and the fruit of palm trees). They usually forage in pairs along the forest floor, where they hop rather than walk.

During breeding season, the bird sings a beautiful, warbling, flute-like song (particularly the males, who sing even at night). During the rest of the year the only sounds thrushes make are alarm calls. Nests are open cups constructed of grass, leaves, and moss and are usually built at heights of about 4.5–18 meters (15–59 ft) in a canopy of medium-sized trees. Females incubate 2–3 eggs for two weeks, and couples then take turns feeding and nurturing the young, which leave the nest in as little as two weeks. The bird is also known as red-bellied thrush.

### THE SIGNIFICANCE

The rufous-bellied thrush—commonly known in Brazil as *sabiá-laranjeira*—is renowned for its modest beauty and melodious song. It was designated as the country's national bird in a 2002 presidential decree and has been represented on Brazilian postage stamps. The thrush can be sighted throughout Brazil in the wild and also close to urban areas, such parks and residential neighborhoods. The rufous-bellied thrush has also been kept as a caged songbird. The *sabiá-laranjeira*'s strong presence in Brazilian popular culture is often attributed to a song by Nara Leão, and its beautiful call is also referenced in literature and music. This has earned it the nickname *passaro dos poetas*, or "bird of the poets." While the rufous-bellied thrush is not considered threatened, ongoing deforestation continues to destruct its natural habitat.

# National Symbols

- National Anthem
- National Bird
- National Day
- National Flower



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### South Africa: Flag Details

#### Date First Used

April 27, 1994

#### Nickname(s)

None

#### Design Elements

Three horizontal bands of red, green, and blue on the fly; the narrower green band is separated by white fibrillations and splits in with a yellow fibrillation.

Symbols: The "Y" shape

Colors: Red, blue, green. The South African govern but specifically states the

Proportions: 2:3

Variations: The naval ensign all four sides of the flag; canton and the Air Force

#### History

The earliest South Africa Union of South Africa's of the Union of South Africa flag's design was based equal-sized orange, white the Union Jack, the flag of white stripe. The Union of Orange Free State hung made for a politically neutral

South Africa became a republic to change the Union Jack on their flag Verwoerd, a former South maintained the tricolor of garland. It was never adopted had stabilized before preeminent symbol of apartheid

Frederick Brownell, South intended as a stopgap, it from prison in 1990. Brown past while sidestepping March 1994. Reasonably Constitution.

#### Proper Uses

The South African flag may table, statue, floor, or plat disrespect. South Africa's flag-handling rules state before. It cannot be flown ceremoniously. The flag must not be defaced with

#### Legends, Controversy

Even though the govern individual colors on the S officials occasionally sur black South Africans, red colonialism and apartheid sun.

Some sources claim that African National Congress blue).

The South African flag is woven pattern. Brownell flag.



### South Africa: Flag Images

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Flag of South Africa on Flagpole

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Waving Flag of South Africa

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**Saudi Arabia: Professions**

Translate From: American English Translate To: Arabic Translate To (2): Korean

accountant	محاسب Muhaseb	회계사 hwaee-gye-sa
actor	ممثل Mumathel	배우 bae-u
actress	ممثلة Mumathela	여배우 yo-bae-u
acupuncturist	المعالج بالوخز khissa't Al'elaj Belwakhz	침술사 chim-sul-sa
administrator	مدير udeer	행정관 haeng-jong-gwan
	موظف udeer	종보이사 jong-bo-i-sa
	بلات lanat	항공보이사 hang-gong-u-ju-gong-hak-gi-sa
	مهندس varan	항공우주공학기사 hang-gong-u-ju-gong-hak-gi-sa
	معلم yayar	항공기 조종사 hang-gong-gi-jo-jong-sa
	معلم yayar	대리인 dae-ri-in
	معلمة yayar	스튜어디스 s-tyu-o-di-s
	معلمة yayar	항공기 조종사 hang-gong-gi-jo-jong-sa
	معلمة yayar	대사 dae-sa
	معلمة yayar	사فير sa-feer
	معلمة yayar	마의 전문 의사 ma-chi-jon-mun-ui-sa
	معلمة yayar	hdeer
	معلمة yayar	인용학자 in-ryu-hak-ja

# Language Glossaries

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**Thailand: Travel Items**

Documents Formalities Insurance Problems Ratings Security

Translate From: American English Translate To: Thai Translate To (2): Punjabi

* airline ticket	ตั๋วเครื่องบิน Tua Kruangbin	ਜਹਾਜ਼ ਦੀ ਟਿਕਟ jahaz di ticket
bill	บิล Bill	ਬਿਲ bill
boarding pass	บัตรขึ้นเครื่อง Bat Phan Khuen Kruang	ਏਅਰਲਾਈਨ ਪਾਸ boarding paas
bus ticket	ตั๋วรถราง Tua Rodprajumtang	ਬਸ ਟਿਕਟ bus ticket
documents	เอกสาร Ekkasarn	ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ dastavej
driver's license	ใบอนุญาต Bai Khabkhee	ਡਰਾਈਵਰ ਦਾ ਲਾਈਸੈਂਸ driver da license
ferry ticket	ตั๋วเรือเฟอร์รี่ Tua Rue Ferry	ਫੇਰੀ ਟਿਕਟ bedi ticket
identification	บัตรประชาชน Bat Prachachon	ਧਾਰਾ pchhaan
invoice	ใบกำกับสินค้า Bai Kumkab Sinkha	ਚਲਾਨ ਟਿਕਟ ਕਾਰਨਾ chalaan tyaar karna
passport	หนังสือเดินทาง Nungsue Dermtang	ਪਾਸਪੋਰਟ passport
plane ticket	ตั๋วเครื่องบิน Tua Kruangbin	ਹਵਾਈ ਜਹਾਜ਼ ਟਿਕਟ hawai jahaz ticket
receipt	ใบเสร็จ Baiset	ਰਸੀਦ rasid
subway ticket	ตั๋วรถไฟใต้ดิน Tua Rodfai Taidin	ਭੁਮਿਗਟ ਰੇਲ ਟਿਕਟ bhumigat rail ticket
ticket	ตั๋ว Tua	ਟਿਕਟ ticket
train ticket	ตั๋วรถไฟ Tua Rodfai	ਰੇਲ ਜਾਗੀ ਟਿਕਟ rail qaddi ticket

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Human Rights Report 2010

Human Rights Report 2009

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Myanmar: Human Rights Report 2010

**Human Rights Report 2010**

The following was published in the 2010 *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices* by the US Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, April 8, 2011.

**Introduction**

Burma (Myanmar), with an estimated population of 56 million, is ruled by a highly authoritarian military regime dominated by the majority ethnic Burman group. The State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), led by Senior General Than Shwe, was the country's de facto government. Military officers wielded the ultimate authority at each level of government. In 1990 prodemocracy parties won more than 80 percent of the seats in a general parliamentary election, but the regime continued to ignore the results. In 2008 the regime held a referendum on its draft constitution and declared the constitution had been approved by 92.48 percent of voters, a figure no independent observers believed was valid. The government held parliamentary elections on November 7, the first since 1990. The Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) claimed a landslide victory, winning 77 percent of the seats in the national assembly. The USDP claimed to have won a referendum on the new constitution on January 31, 2011, with 90.25 percent of voters in favor. The constitution was to go into effect on February 3, 2011, but the regime continued to ignore the results. The regime continued human rights abuses, including deaths, disappearances, and arbitrary arrests. In addition, it continued to restrict freedom of movement, and restricted freedom of assembly, association, and expression. Ethnic armed groups continued to operate in several areas, and the government released some prisoners from its military camps. The government released some prisoners from its military camps. The government released some prisoners from its military camps.

**Section I. Including I.**

**A. Arbitrary or Unlawful Killings**

There were reports that military officials in Bago Division killed at least one person. Government soldiers in Bago Division reportedly killed Kyaw Aung Chit and killed Aung Chit. In May government forces reportedly were firing on a village in Bago Division. During the year there were reports that military officials in Bago Division were not developing an effective system of human rights. There were no developments in Bago Division.

Hong Kong: International Schools

**International Schools**

Hong Kong has a large number of international schools serving the extensive expatriate community. Many languages are represented as the medium of instruction. Some examples of the larger English-speaking schools are given below.

**Hong Kong International School**

23 South Bay Close  
Repulse Bay  
Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 2812 5000  
Web: [www.hkis.edu.hk](http://www.hkis.edu.hk)

The Hong Kong International School provides lower primary to secondary education for pupils aged two to 18 years. Over 2,500 pupils in total are spread across four schools housed at two campuses on the south side of Hong Kong Island. The curriculum is based on a U.S. model, and although over 40 countries are represented among the student population, American children make up almost 60 percent of the total intake. Ninety percent of graduates from the USA return there to attend university.

**Canadian International School of Hong Kong**

25 Nam Long Shan Road  
Aberdeen  
Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 2240 6363  
Web: [www.cohis.edu.hk](http://www.cohis.edu.hk)

The Canadian International School of Hong Kong (CDSHK) was established to provide primary to secondary education to Canadian children, however, around 25 different nationalities are represented at the school. There are over 1,600 pupils currently enrolled. The school follows the Ontario Curriculum leading to the award of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). CDSHK is also an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School fully authorized to deliver the IB Diploma, Primary Years Program (PYP), and Middle Years Program (MYP).

**The Chinese International School**

1 Hau Yuen Path  
Braemar Hill  
Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 2512 5918  
Web: [www.cis.edu.hk](http://www.cis.edu.hk)

The Chinese International School offers a dual-language program in Mandarin Chinese and English. In primary school, all students learn to read, write, and speak both English and Mandarin to age-appropriate levels. The core subjects are taught in English only, but other subjects are taught in both languages.

Since the school is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, all students undertake the IB Middle Years Program followed by the IB Diploma Program examinations. The medium of instruction in the secondary school is English, although Mandarin Chinese is a required subject for all students. There are special classes for students who enter the secondary school with limited or no Chinese-language background.

The student body is comprised of children of diverse national, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Some 25 nationalities are represented in the student body, with the majority coming from Hong Kong, the USA, the U.K., and Canada.

## Education

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- Human Rights Reports
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- Report 2009





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### Cameroon: Banknote Images

Denominations: 500, 1000, 2000, 5000, 10000 (Francs)

Click on an image to enlarge

**500 Francs**

Front (Obverse)

Issue Date: 2002  
Size: 70 x 130 mm  
Color: Brown

(F) Detail: The central character is represented by a young pupil in front of a table in a classroom.  
(B) Detail: Two huts with a foreground a woman.

Security: Watermark of the letters BEAC and three heads of antelopes called Elans of Derby and which constitute the official logo of the BEAC. The safety wire is a discontinuous dark line on all the height of the ticket comprising initials CEMAC written in all small letters. Impression in relief that is perceptible with the touch. The two incomplete images are printed on each face of the ticket are superimposed to form a complete image. A geometrical form in relief for to aid the partially-sighted persons and blind identify the note. A pearly band on the back that changes from yellow or gray according to the angle.

Back (Reverse)

### 500 Francs (old)

Front (Obverse)

Issue Date: 1997  
Size: 75 x 140 mm

(F) Detail: Map of Central Africa shepherd.  
(B) Detail: A mask; antelopes, b

Security: Watermark of the mar

Back (Reverse)

### 1000 Francs

Front (Obverse)

Issue Date: 2002  
Size: 75 x 135 mm  
Color: Blue

(F) Detail: A tractor with logs. The teenager seen on the face.  
(B) Detail: A tractor, a cow, and

Security: Watermark of the letter called Elans of Derby and which BEAC. The safety wire is a disc the ticket comprising initials CEMAC. Impression in relief that a percept incomplete images are printed on superimposed to form a complete to aid the partially-sighted person band on the back that changes fr angle.

Back (Reverse)

### 1000 Francs (old)

Front (Obverse)

Issue Date: 1994  
Size: 75 x 147 mm

(F) Detail: Map of Central Afr  
(B) Detail: A logging scene

Security: Watermark of the m

Back (Reverse)



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### Côte d'Ivoire: Coin Images

Denominations: 1, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 250, 500 (Francs)

Click on an image to enlarge

**1 Franc**

Front (Obverse)

Back (Reverse)

Issue Date: 1900  
Diameter: 15.0mm  
Weight: 1.64g  
Shape: Round  
Edge: Smooth  
Material: Aluminum

(F) Detail: "BANQUE CENTRALE ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST". The logo of the BCEAO, the stylized sawfish.  
(B) Detail: "UNION MONETAIRE Ouest-africaine". The coin's value and year of minting.

**5 Francs**

Front (Obverse)

Back (Reverse)

Issue Date: 1997  
Diameter: 20.0mm  
Weight: 3.91g  
Shape: Round  
Edge: Smooth  
Material: Aluminum-Bronze alloy

(F) Detail: "BANQUE CENTRALE ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST". The logo of the BCEAO, the stylized sawfish. The coin's value.  
(B) Detail: Image of the head of a gazelle. The year of minting.

**10 Francs**

Front (Obverse)

Back (Reverse)

Issue Date: 1997  
Diameter: 23.5mm  
Weight: 4.00g  
Shape: Round  
Edge: Smooth  
Material: Brass

(F) Detail: "BANQUE CENTRALE ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST". The logo of the BCEAO, the stylized sawfish. The coin's value.  
(B) Detail: Image of woman with the jug even two youths, rocking water from the artesian well. The year of minting.

# Money

- Currency Overview
- Banknote Images
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## Belgium: Points of Interest

### Cultural Sites

**Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie**  
Ateliers de la Monnaie  
23, rue Léopold-1000  
Brussels



Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie  
Brussels, Belgium

...ar old  
...uration  
...n 1986.  
...orm,


...h a  
...ean  
...posed of a stage and an orchestra pit, the royal box and  
...bought building houses all the theater's workshops.

### Finland: Points of Interest

### Cultural Sites

**Suomen Kansallisooppera (Finnish National Opera)**  
Helsinginkatu 58  
Helsinki  
Finland  
Tel: (358) (9) 4030 2211  
Web: [www.opera.fi](http://www.opera.fi)

Established in 1911 as Domestic Opera, the Finnish National Opera is Finland's first and leading opera house. The building is made of glass, wood, and white granite. The main and small auditoriums have seating capacities of 1,350 and 500 respectively and a modern acoustic setup. The main auditorium has a 500-square-meter stage, which is segregated into four sections that can be elevated, rotated, or lowered separately, and a 28-meter-high (92 feet) fly tower. With such state-of-the-art technology, the Opera House, on an average, features about 300 professional opera, ballet, and orchestral performances, including seven premieres, every year.

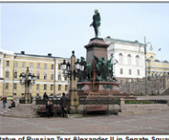


Finnish National Opera  
Helsinki, Finland

### Historic Sites

**Senaatintori (Senate Square)**  
Helsinki  
Finland

One of the best neo-classical architectural works designed by Carl Ludvig Engel, the Senate Square is considered a symbolic representation of Finland's political, scientific, religious, and commercial powers. It is situated at the heart of the capital city and is a popular venue for sightseeing trips, celebrations, gatherings, parades, concerts, art displays, and digital carillon music. The Senate Square comprises the Palace of the Council of the Senate (office of Finland's Prime Minister and the cabinet), Helsinki University and its library (Engel's finest masterpiece), the Lutheran Cathedral, former 19<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-century homes (now converted into shops, internet cafés, and restaurants), and a bronze statue of Russian Tsar Alexander II at the center.



Statue of Russian Tsar Alexander II in Senate Square  
Helsinki, Finland

...),  
...r  
...nstructed in neo-gothic style and is now the King's


**Suomenlinna Sea Fortress**  
Suomenlinna  
Helsinki  
Finland

**UNESCO World Heritage Site**

The 250-year-old Suomenlinna ("Castle of Finland") or Viapori sea fortress is an outstanding example of Swedish military architecture. This popular tourist attraction is spread over six islands and was the biggest dry dock and military shipyard in the world during its time. The Naval Academy of Finland occupies one of the islands, and the repaired ramparts and barracks are home to around 900 inhabitants. The fortress also features seven museums, many restaurants, cafés, children's tours, an open-air theater, and Viapori Jazz.

**Turun Linna (Turku Castle)**  
Linnankatu 90  
Turku  
Finland  
Tel: (358) (2) 262 0300  
Web: [www.nba.fi/en/turku\\_castle](http://www.nba.fi/en/turku_castle)


Situated at the mouth of Aurajoki River, this 700-year-old monument is one of the largest surviving medieval castles in Scandinavia and depicts Finland's cultural and architectural heritage. Throughout its history, the castle has been renovated several times. The main structure consists of the päälinna (medieval keep) made of a square fort and two square gateway towers, edellinna (Renaissance Gallery) with several towers, a small church, and large rooms for municipal functions. The interior includes the Turku Provincial Museum, the museum shop (Fatabori), and an old state prison. The museum mainly features medieval wooden sculptures, Stone, Bronze, Iron Age, and Medieval coins, medals, guns, miniatures of the castle at different stages of construction, and ancient artifacts.




Turku Castle  
Turku, Finland

...style 96-meter-high  
...rises above the  
...eter-tall (16 feet) St.  
...e tower. The exterior  
...ts, and important  
...near wings, and  
...tures that  
...The interior also  
...rangé Gallery,

**Grand Place**  
Brussels, Belgium



**Town Hall**  
Brussels, Belgium



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# Travel

- Points of Interest
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The Business Experience

Decision Making

Entertaining

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**Germany: Business Entertaining**

**Activities**

A German business meal will consist of many things—conversation, delicious food, and maybe even a frothy beer or two—but talk of business may not be on the list. As a general rule, Germans don't make decisions over a meal and talk of actual business may stem mainly from their general apprehension about making small talk with strangers. The bulk of in-depth, business-centered discussions will normally take place before or after a meal, or at the very least, at the tail end of lunch, but almost never over dinner.



Both lunches and dinners are important for business, as meals allow discussions in a more relaxed atmosphere.

The best thing foreigners can do is follow the lead of their German counterparts and always come prepared with a few light, non-business-related topics to discuss, such as sports or German art and music.

Most business meetings will take place in a restaurant or, in the case of larger companies, within company facilities. Germany has many small, relatively informal restaurants in which business is frequently conducted. In these establishments, it is not uncommon to be asked to share a table with another party, but don't worry—there is no obligation to strike up conversation with strangers, and in fact, doing so may be received unfavorably.

The primary business meal is lunch, generally served between 12pm and 1pm. A German lunch usually consists of an appetizer, a main course, and a dessert. Both lunches and dinners are considered important components of business conferences, as meals allow time for establishing new contacts and discussing business in a more relaxed atmosphere. Take advantage of these opportunities whenever possible.

There may be a few official business dinners, but German hosts are quite aware of the need for personal time—because in one with an effort to 8:30pm, and can

German cuisine is special requests reasonable request

---

**Etiquette**

The person who remembers went on acknowledge and your appreciation

It is not appropriate understood to be left to pay the bill.

But aside from you go out to go the instance that zusammen (total)

During a meal in one hand while the

Alcohol may be lead from the host extend an explanation polite to drink, all

It is rare to be in private residence. Don't expect to be themselves. The "Zum Wohl" and

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**Japan: Decision Making**

**Cultural Context**

To say that patience is a virtue when doing business in Japan would be an understatement. The Japanese value harmony and relationship building throughout negotiations, and they will typically go through several rounds of meetings and visits before coming to any final decision. Japanese businesspeople are extremely detail oriented and analytical during the decision-making process, which may be frustrating for Westerners wishing to reach agreement quickly.



While the Japanese arrange their businesses in formal hierarchies, decisions are based on the general consensus of the group.

Meetings are used to build rapport, confirm previously made decisions, or exchange information, and decisions are rarely made in them. Meetings are generally attended by many members of a Japanese company, typically professionals possessing expertise in assorted relevant areas. Be prepared to answer a wide variety of detail-oriented questions. If you're not confident about the minute facts of your proposal, bring assistance.

In the end, the Japanese make decisions based on both personal relationships and general principles.

**Power Structures**

While the Japanese arrange their businesses in formal hierarchies, decisions are based on the general consensus of the group. A Japanese professional must gain consent from many individuals, at many levels within the company's hierarchy, in order to put any proposed plan into action. This process ensures that the company's overall needs are put first, and that respect and honor are preserved to benefit the group as a whole. Building consensus is a time-consuming process, and to Western visitors in particular, the Japanese contract process may seem one of the longest, most complex business situations ever experienced.

**Key Contacts**

While the majority of decisions will come from the top down, general consensus is still necessary in Japanese firms. Therefore, it is important to build relationships with everyone you meet. Your display of patience while navigating through different departments shows your desire to do business together. If you lose patience, and thus lose face (honor or respect), your professional reputation and chances of doing business in Japan will suffer. The Japanese may test you by asking you to do something that seems difficult or nonprofitable. Always accept, as this is often a test to see if you are in it for the long relationship, which is what most Japanese contacts want.

# Business Culture

- The Business Experience
- Decision Making
- Entertaining
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- Business Workweek



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## Maps of Iran



### Iran Political Map

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### Iran Political with Provinces Map

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2.		9/11/2012	811	65	3
3.		9/12/2012	676	78	9
4.		9/13/2012	662	71	4
5.		9/14/2012	835	96	13
6.		9/15/2012	63	7	1
7.		9/16/2012	79	11	1
8.		9/17/2012	913	98	15
9.		9/18/2012	987	124	16
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