PASSPORT to the WORLD
Your A to Z Guided Language Tour
By Craig Froman

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All data for the country fast facts has been referenced from the Central Intelligence Agency (cia.gov)
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.

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.

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.

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.
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.

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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.

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.

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)

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.

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!
**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

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**SPEAKING ARMENIAN**

- **Hello:** Parev (paw rev)
- **Goodbye:** Tsesedutsyun (se dess you toon)
- **Thank you:** Shnorhagallem (shnore hay ball arm)
- **Peace:** Khaniaghutyun (kan agg yood yoon)

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**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 entrinkers, 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!
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.

**Speaking Bengali**

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

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!!!

**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.