

Intercultural Understanding Guide: Middle Eastern Culture

Geographic context:

- The Middle East is a geopolitical region that is not officially grouped. It always includes Cyprus, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen. Most of the countries in this region are multiethnic.

Religion:

- The Middle East is considered the birthplace of the world's three largest monotheistic religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.
- Religion practices and traditions deeply influence daily life.

Language:

- With a population of 411 million people, there are dozens of languages are spoken throughout the Middle East, but they can be fit into three main language groups: Semitic (includes Aramaic, Hebrew, and Arabic), Indo-European (includes Kurdish, Armenian, and Persian), Turkic (includes Turkish and Azeri).
- Among these languages, Arabic is the most commonly spoken language in the Middle East.

Values:

- Respect for authority and elders is central, and extended families often live together or maintain strong connections.



References:

- [Family Search](#)