

Intercultural Understanding Guide: Mongolian Culture

Geographic context:

- Mongolia, officially known as Mongolian People's Republic is a landlocked country in East Asia.

Language:

- The Mongolian language is the official language of Mongolia, which is spoken by 98.5% of the population.
- It belongs to the Ural-Altaic language family.

Religion:

- Shamanism is the dominant religion in Mongolia.
- People who seek help will approach a Shaman for a blessing or cure and even to get hints about their future.
- Mongolians have had the tradition to follow Buddhism since the 16th century.
- 6% of the Mongolian is Muslim.

Values:

- The value of family, respect for one's parents and other elders greatly affects Mongolian values and social structure.

Social norms/structure/hierarchy:

- Mongolia is well known for its nomadic culture and it is still practiced today in the rural areas of the country.
- Nomads follow a seasonal routine raising and breeding the five main types of stock – goat, sheep, cattle (including yaks), camel and horse.

Demographics in Australia:

- Australia is becoming an increasingly popular destination for Mongolian students.
- Currently, over 6,000 Mongolian students study in Australia. Furthermore,
- The 2021 Australian Census reported 5,397 people born in Mongolia are currently resident in Australia.



References:

- [Mongolian Embassy](#); [National Geographic](#); [ABS](#)