



# Arabic : The Language of Limitless Opportunities

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## Introduction

Arabic is considered to be one of the oldest languages in the world with a wealth of knowledge that Archeologists to this day are still trying to uncover. Importance of Arabic has roots going back as far as the sixth century. Today Arabic is the official language of about two dozen Countries and spoken by 400 Million speakers across the globe. It is one of the sixth official languages of UN.. (UN's 6 official languages: Chinese, Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish). Muslims considering Arabic the divine gift and a sacred part of their customs. They are required to perform five daily prayers in Arabic. Muslims believe that Arabic may be the mother of all languages in the world. It is the very first language taught to Adam in the Garden of Eden.

In the middle ages, it was the leading language of the world and occupied an international position similar to that of English at the present time. It has left much influence over the European as well as Indian languages. Besides this, it is the holy language of Islam and as such it has been studied in every nook and corner of the globe as a language of a great religion and civilization. Arabic is the 5<sup>th</sup> strongest language in the world. Language importance is not defined only on the speaking population, but the strong or important language index of the world is determined by the KPI (The Power Language Index) set of 20 indexes. Major aspects of the index are: language-speaking population, GDP of the country, international communication, diplomacy, tourism, education, culture, literature and heritage. Basically, Arabic language is one of the strongest languages in the world above all aspects.

It is worth mentioning here in this connection that study of the Arabic language is essential from the viewpoint of socio-historical, cultural, job opportunities as well as Indo-Arab relationship. Keeping in view the same this paper has made an attempt to understand the employment opportunities for arabic students of India.

## Arabic In India

Arabic, in India, has been taught in different ways for more than fifteen centuries. The relations between India and the Arab world date back to very ancient times, and the Arab merchants appear to have played leading part in establishing as well as strengthening commercial and cultural links between the two nations. With the advent of Islam in the Indian subcontinent, these ties of friendship became stronger than ever before, particularly, for cultural and political reasons. Several Muslim empires were established on the soil of India which lasted for more than eight centuries. India became enriched with their treasures of various sciences of knowledge, arts, culture and literatures. It is to be remarked here that India has been one of the most well-known non-Arab states where Arabic language and literature grew, developed and flourished on a large scale. During the period of Arab rule in the Indian Territory, Arabic continued to be the official language of the government and administration and the unrivalled medium of sacred knowledge and literary achievement. Moreover, various Arabic madrasas and cultural institutions of higher learning under the personal guidance and scholarly interest of the Sultans were set up which produced a good number of poets, writers, Islamic thinkers, commentators of the holy Qur'an, scholars of the Hadith etc. Their noble works can be compared to any work of any great Arab scholar. There were many Arabic scholars during the medieval India, few of them are as :

- \* Allamah Sighani Lahori (d. 1252A.H.), the author of the great book al—'Ubabuz-Zakhir wa al-Lubabul--Fakhir" on grammar and lexicography.
- \* Gulam Ali Azad Bilgrami (1116- 1200A.H.), who has penned many outstanding Arabic books on history and literature like "Subhatul-Marjan,
- \* Shah Waliullah Dihlawi (1114-1176A.H.), who has produced the great book "Hujjatullahil-Balighahll, on the science of Hadith.
- \* Abdul Hai al-Hasani (1286-1341A. H.), the writer of the famous book "Nuzhatul-Khawatir" on the great Indian scholars in different fields from 622 .A.D.up to the time of the author.
- \* Zainuddin bin Abdul Aziz who produced an authentic prose work entitled —Tuhfatul Mujahidin
- \* Abu al-Faiz ibn Mubarak Faidi (1548-1595) - He is the poet laureate of Akbar's Court, who has written a number of books which include: *Sawati al-Ilham* and *Mawaridul Kalam* (written without dotted letters).
- \* Abdul Haque of Delhi (1551-1642) - He is credited with spread of Hadith in India and wrote the famous book *Lam 'at al-Tanquih*.
- \* Shaikh Ahmad Sarhindi (1564–1624) - He is known as Mujaddid-i-alf-i-thani (reviver of the second millennium) who has penned *al-Risala al-Tahliliya*.
- \* Ali ibn Husamuddin (d. 1480) - He has written the all-time famous book *Kanzul Ummal*.

There are about twenty thousand madrasas in our India where modern education is being offered in Arabic. They are playing active part in contributing of Arabic language and literature in India. Some of them are as :

1. Darul Uloom, Deoband, UP.
2. Darul Uloom Nadvatul Ulema, Lucknow, UP.
3. Al-Jamiatus Salafiah (Markazi Darul Uloom), Varanasi, UP.
4. Madrasa Mazahirul Uloom, Saharanpur, UP

5. Jamia Islamia Sanabil, New Delhi.
6. Madarsatul Islah, Saraimir, Azamgarh, UP.
7. Jamiatul Falah, Bilariaganj, Azamgarh, UP.
8. Jamiatur Rashad, Azamgarh, UP.

Besides this, there are more than 40 universities in India where Arabic language is being taught in addition to a number of colleges in some states such as Kerala, West Bengal, Assam and Kashmir.

## Job Opportunities

Arabic is the official language of over 23 countries and there are well over 400 million speakers of the language. These speakers are largely concentrated in the Middle East, but there are also other native speakers of Arabic throughout the world. There is a high demand and low supply of Arabic-speakers. With the growing importance of the Middle East in international affairs, and the extreme shortage of United Nations staff who are versed in the Arabic language and culture. Those who study Arabic might better their chances to work in the different missions and offices in the Arab world. It is a language of strategic importance. The US government has designated Arabic as a language of strategic importance. This is to speak about the growing need for proficient speakers of the language. Just think of how many offices and missions are now in The Arab country. Knowing Arabic can promote intercultural understanding. Events in the Middle East affect our daily lives and work at the United Nations. Being unaware of the language and culture might lead to mistrust and miscommunication, and to an inability to cooperate.

India has traditionally enjoyed close and friendly relations with Arab countries. These relations date back to ancient times. There are important Indian investments in countries stretching from Oman to Egypt, Sudan and beyond. There have been cultural ties with the region throughout history. Much of our external trade passes along the Suez. Arabic is the oldest foreign language in India today. The reason is that its entry into the country dated back to the seventh century of the Christian era. The language, at present, is no longer confined to the Islamic Institutions and seminars and is no longer considered to be the language of any religion only. With the globalization of business, the world becoming more and more a global village, the need for transactional knowledge languages has become very important in both private and govt. sectors. Keeping in view the demand of the languages Arabic has been adopted in many universities and colleges.

In day to days life, Arabic language is of utmost importance due to the economic significance of the oil producing Arabian Countries in the global scenario. There is unemployment in our India. One of the major remedial measure to get rid of unemployment is to learn the language. Learning the language can open doors to employment in the oil producing countries. Knowing the language can help us to find a career in different fields such as journalism, business, industry, education, finance and banking, translation and interpretation, consulting, foreign service etc. so Arabic helps in international trade and industry. It leads to better understanding between the different nations of the world. A person knowing Arabic stands opportunities of employment.

These days, the Arabic language is becoming an important language when it comes to operating an international business that is trying to break into foreign markets. Some businesses want Arabic speakers on-board specifically to contact local Arabic people and to obtain an edge when running a business that might otherwise end up being missed, using only English interpretation and discussions. Arabic speakers have also been in high demand by the CIA and FBI for those on-going

conflicts in Iraq as well as in Syria etc. Apart from this, knowledge of Arabic can also augment career prospects in various other fields as a result of the expansion of markets and business outsourcing.

In nutshell we can say that the learning Arabic opens up many employment possibilities in a number of different industries such as oil, travel, finance, industrial collaborations, and translation, to name a few.

Keeping in view the global importance of the language it is very important to guide our students in right path so that they can achieve their dreams by opting arabic as a subject in different schools and colleges of our country. There are many courses and programs available for learning Arabic during after +2 level . Admission to a BA Arabic program will depend on whether a student passed the 10+2 level, as well as his personal interview. The admission process varies from college to college. Most institutes will give admission based on the results of student's final examination, while some top universities will conduct an entrance exam to determine eligibility.

### **B.A. Arabic Course Suitability**

- Students those who are interested in Arabic language and its literature etc. are most suitable for this course.
- Those who are willing to go for teaching fields at higher degree level i.e. college and university level both in private and government institutions.
- Candidates those who want to go in foreign countries with the purposes of study, job and the like other reasons also are suitable for it.
- Candidates who have religious fervour and willing to do something for the uplift of Arabic language and literature are also suitable for the course.

### **How is B.A. Arabic Course Beneficial?**

- This degree course enables the students to go for various Arabic language related jobs.
- One can go for higher degree programs in respective subjects such as Masters' degree and then for research work.
- They can have jobs regarding travel and hospitality such as in hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, airports, and many other businesses that are seeing an increase in Arabic customers. Applicants also can have government jobs as well.

## B.A. Arabic Employment Areas

- Colleges & Universities
- Language Departments
- Translation Offices
- Embassies
- Passport Offices
- UPSC (IFS)
- Call Centres

## B.A. Arabic Job Types

- Arabic Teacher
- Arabic Data Entry Clerk
- Arabic Translator (English to Arabic)
- Language Analyst
- Arabic Tutor
- Content Analyst
- Language Specialist

Similar Course in B.A. Arabic

B.A. (Hons.) (Arabic)

Advance Courses in B.A. Arabic

M.A. (Arabic)

M.Phil. (Arabic)

Ph.D. (Arabic)

## Conclusion

The study of the Arabic language should not become the monopoly of some people or of one section of the Indian people, but should be studied by all those who are interested in gaining a better knowledge of the social, economic or political conditions of the Arab world today, or want to study its glorious past history and philosophy, or wants to wipe out unemployment. In nutshell I am of the opinion that Arabic should be taught as a living language in the country because Learning Arabic language skills can fuel your chances of having a fruitful and satisfying career. More companies than ever are doing business in the Middle East and North Africa, but they can't do business there without hiring people who have a good working knowledge of the Arabic language. Besides this the language is assuming a central position in international business. One cannot



underestimate the significance and importance of Arabic in the modern world, and the scope of the Arabic language in India is growing and vast.

There are many scopes for Arabic learners in both private and government sectors. The government sector may include, but is not limited to, Foreign Service, embassies, cultural attaches' and diplomatic services, intelligence, tourism and so on. The private sector may include jobs in international organizations, mass communication, publishing, entertainment, education, interpretation and translation, business and industry, finance and banking and such others.

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