

# BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR PEOPLE GROUP RESEARCH THE AMERICAS (Not including the United States)

## ENCYCLOPEDIAS

**Encyclopedia of World Cultures**, David Levinson, editor. Boston, Massachusetts: G.K. Hall, 1991-2002. This is a 10-volume set, with an additional 11th volume published as a supplement. The volumes are organized by region of the world, and contain brief (2-8 page) profiles of people groups in that region. The profiles contain important information such as alternate names for the group, linguistic affiliations, information on culture and history, and a list of sources for further research. This set is based on decades of research performed by the Human Relations Area Files project at Yale University. See especially **Vol. 7: South America**, and **Vol. 8: Middle America and the Caribbean**.

**Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life**, Timothy L. Gall, editor. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research, 1998. This is a 4-volume set, organized by region of the world, which presents articles exploring the way of life of over 500 culture groups worldwide. Each article contains sections on the group's location, language, folklore, religion, holidays, rites of passage, interpersonal relations, living conditions, family life, clothing, food, education, cultural heritage, work, sports, entertainment and recreation, folk arts, social problems, and includes a bibliography of sources. See especially **Vol. 2: Americas**.

**Countries and Their Cultures**, Melvin Ember and Carol R. Ember, editors. New York: Macmillan Reference, 2001. This is a 4-volume set, with articles arranged alphabetically by country name. These articles focus on what is commonly shared culturally by the people who live in a country. This resource is very useful when concentrating on the "majority" population of a country, rather than individual people groups (e.g., Venezuelans, rather than the Piaroa tribe.)

**Encyclopedia of the Peoples of the World**, Amiram Gonen. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1993. This one-volume encyclopedia contains entries on over 2,000 people groups around the world. It has extensive cross-references and can be very useful in identifying alternate names for a people group.

**Encyclopedia of Stateless Nations: Ethnic and National Groups Around the World**, James Minahan, editor. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2002. This 4-volume set contains 350 short articles highlighting the historical, political, social, religious and economic development of many national groups, many of them virtually unknown outside their countries.

**The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Mankind**, Richard Carlisle, editor. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 1990. This 22-volume set contains articles on over 500 different peoples and cultures. Although it is an older resource, the cultural information is still very useful.

**Encyclopedia of Urban Cultures: Cities and Cultures Around the World**, Melvin Ember and Carol R. Ember, editors. Danbury, Connecticut: Grolier, 2002. This 4-volume set was published under the auspices of the Human Relations Area Files at Yale University. It contains both thematic essays on major issues in urban culture, as well as 240 profiles of cities around the world.

## SPECIALIZED REFERENCE BOOKS—MULTIREGIONAL

**Muslim Peoples: A World Ethnographic Survey**, 2nd edition, Richard V. Weekes. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1984. Although some of the information is outdated, this is still an

important resource. This 2-volume work contains information on over 190 ethnic or linguistic groups, and many of the chapters have extensive bibliographies.

**Peoples on the Move: Introducing the Nomads of the World**, David J. Phillips. Pasadena, California: William Carey Library, 2001. This book contains several valuable chapters covering general topics, such as a definition of nomads and communicating the Gospel to nomads, as well as a survey of about 200 nomadic peoples in every region of the world. It includes an extensive and detailed bibliography.

**Ethnic Groups Worldwide: A Ready Reference Handbook**, David Levinson. Phoenix, Arizona: Oryx Press, 1998. This book is separated into four geographical regions: Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas. Within each region, there are chapters for each country containing specific information on the ethnic groups of that country.

## RESOURCES ON THE AMERICAS

**Bibliography of the Summer Institute of Linguistics**. Dallas, Texas: Summer Institute of Linguistics, 1992. This bibliography brings together a comprehensive listing of the works of SIL members in the areas of linguistics, anthropology, literacy and community development, and translations of the Bible and Bible-related literature. It is also available on the Internet at [www.sil.org](http://www.sil.org)

**Handbook of Middle American Indians**, Robert Wauchope, general editor. Austin: University of Texas Press, published in the 1960s and 1970s, with at least one supplement published in 2000. This is a multi-volume resource on the history, anthropology, archaeology, and languages of Middle American Indians. Of particular interest are Volume 6: Social Anthropology, and Volumes 7 and 8: Ethnology.

**Handbook of South American Indians**, Julian H. Steward, editor. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 7 volumes published in the 1940s and 1950s by the Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology. Although the information is somewhat dated, it is very detailed and can be helpful in distinguishing among different tribes.

**The Indians of Central and South America: An Ethnohistorical Dictionary**, James S. Olson. New York: Greenwood Press, 1991. This is a reference guide providing basic information about the existing Amerindian tribes of Central and South America. Each entry provides a brief historical description of an existing tribe or group with bibliographical citations.

**The Indians of South America: A Bibliography**, Thomas L. Welch, compiler. Washington, DC: Organization of American States, 1987. An extensive and detailed bibliography, divided into sections on General Works, Topical Works, Specific Regions, Specific Peoples, and Languages and Dialects.

**Encyclopedia of Canada's Peoples**, Paul Robert Magocsi, editor. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1999. This handbook covers the multiethnic heritage of Canada, with articles on 119 ethnic groups. Bibliographies are included.

**Canada's Diverse Peoples: A Reference Sourcebook**, J.M. Bumsted. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-Clío, 2003. A comprehensive historical study of the development of ethnic communities in Canada from its early history to the present. The chapter on "The New Ethnic Groups" has brief descriptions of numerous immigrant communities.

## DATABASES AND INTERNET RESOURCES

Please check with your local public or academic library for the availability of databases that could be useful in people group research. Note: Internet addresses (URLs) change frequently. If any of these links do not work, just search for the name of the resource, e.g. "Joshua Project."

**Anthropological Literature**, Harvard University, Tozzer Library. This is an index to journal articles on anthropology. It is available by subscription on CD-ROM, online and in print.

**AnthropologyPlus**, available via the FirstSearch database provider, OCLC. Brings together into one resource the highly respected Anthropological Literature from Harvard University and Anthropological Index, Royal Anthropological Institute from the UK. Offers worldwide indexing of all core periodicals, in addition to lesser-known journals, from the late 19th century to today. Provides extensive worldwide indexing of journal articles, reports, commentaries, edited works, and obituaries in the fields of social, cultural, physical, biological, and linguistic anthropology, ethnology, archaeology, folklore, material culture, and interdisciplinary studies

**Dissertation Abstracts Online**. Available through many online services, this database provides information on dissertations from most of the major U.S. universities.

**Religion Index**, American Theological Library Association. This database is available in many forms, including online services, CD-ROMs, and print editions. It includes citations to journal articles going back to the 1940s, and is searchable by people group name.

**FirstSearch**, OCLC, Inc. This resource consists of several databases, including WorldCat, a combined listing of 71,000 library catalogs (131 million items). WorldCat is very helpful in locating books that your local library may not own, but that could be borrowed through "interlibrary loan." There are many other databases that can be accessed through FirstSearch, depending on the subscription package chosen by each library.

**WorldCat.org**, OCLC, Inc. This is the free online version of WorldCat, and it can be found at [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org) It allows the user to search the catalogs of most of the 71,000 cooperating libraries that belong to OCLC, and, by entering a location or zip code, to find out which libraries in a particular area own a specific book, DVD, journal, etc.

**Dialog**. This is actually a group of several hundred separate databases that share common searching protocols. The subjects covered range from history and anthropology to business and technical/scientific areas. There are both full-text and citation databases included, and each one has its own pricing structure.

**LexisNexis**. This is one of many full-text news databases available. It can be helpful in obtaining current articles about people groups or cities from newspapers, magazines and wire services.

**Google**: [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) There is a tremendous amount of information available on the Internet on people groups. Using the right "search engine" can help you locate this information in the most efficient manner. Google is a very useful search engine for accessing Internet resources. Helpful hints for making the best use of it include:

--Use the **Advanced Search** screen for searching for general sources. You can enter all of the alternate names for a people group in the field called "with at least one of the words," and Google will search for all

of them. If you wish to limit your search to a people group in a particular country, you can add that country name in the field called “with the exact phrase.”

--If you want to find news stories about a people group, use the “News” search feature.

--If you want to find pictures of a people group, try using the “Images” search feature.

--If you want to find citations to journal articles, try using “Google Scholar.”

**Peoplegroups.org:** [www.peoplegroups.org](http://www.peoplegroups.org) This site contains the database created by the Global Research Department of the International Mission Board. The database is a comprehensive global list of people groups and provides information such as language, primary religion, availability of the Jesus film and status of evangelization.

**PeopleTeams:** [www.peopleteams.org](http://www.peopleteams.org) This site hosts web pages for many mission teams, including those of the International Mission Board. You can search by region of the world, by people group name, by urban center or by country.

**Library of Congress Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS):** <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/hlas/> This web site contains a bibliography of articles, books, etc. on Latin American studies. The works are chosen and annotated by scholars. Over 5000 works are included each year. It is updated weekly.

**University of Texas Latin American Studies Center:** <http://www.lanic.utexas.edu> This is a wonderful website with multiple links organized by subject. It is a great starting point for any research on the Americas.

**Joshua Project:** <http://www.joshuaproject.net/> This is another good site for unreached people group profiles. A helpful feature is that the profiles often contain links to additional sources of information.

**Ethnologue:** <http://www.ethnologue.com/> This site contains a comprehensive database of languages and dialects, searchable by language name or by country.

**The Commission Magazine:** <http://www.commissionstories.com/> This link takes you to the online version of the IMB’s publication *The Commission*. There are a number of articles here on people groups.

**Amazon:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) This is one of the world’s largest online bookstores. A new feature allows you to search the entire text of many books.

**Library of Congress:** [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) This link takes you to the web site for one of the largest and most comprehensive research libraries in the world. While the Library of Congress rarely lends its books, this site can be useful for identifying materials that might be borrowed from other libraries.

**CIA World Factbook:** <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html> This is the online version of an annual guide to country information, published by the Central Intelligence Agency.

**Country Studies:** <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html> This website contains the on-line versions of books previously published in hard copy by the [Federal Research Division](#) of the Library of Congress under the Country Studies/Area Handbook Program.

## RESOURCES ON LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

**Atlas of the World's Languages**, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Christopher Moseley, R.E. Asher, and Giles Darkes general editors. New York: Routledge, 2007. A detailed scholarly survey of languages of the world, with large country and regional maps showing where different languages are spoken.

**Compendium of the World's Languages**, George L. Campbell, editor. London and New York: Routledge, 1991. This is a two-volume reference set; entries are arranged by language name. Wherever possible, the first eight verses of St. John's Gospel are provided, as an example of each language's written form.

**Ethnologue: Languages of the World**, Raymond G. Gordon, editor. Dallas, TX: Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc., 2005. This is an exhaustive survey of the world's languages, organized by country. It is an excellent source for identifying ethnolinguistic people groups, and is particularly valuable for providing alternate names for groups, as well as information on language families. This is also available online at: <http://www.ethnologue.com/>

**Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics**, R.E. Asher, editor-in-chief. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1994. A 10-volume resource which provides brief information on the language situation of different countries.

**International Encyclopedia of Linguistics**, William Bright, editor. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. This four-volume set provides brief overviews of languages in different countries and cultures.

**Languages of Guatemala**, Marvin K. Mayers, editor. London: Mouton and Co., 1966.

**South American Indian Languages: Retrospect and Prospect**. Harriet E. Menelis Klein and Louisa R. Stark, editors. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1985.

**Note:** Many additional resources for people group research can be found in the book **Cultural Anthropology: A Guide to Reference and Information Resources, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition**. Joann Jacoby and Josephine Z. Kibbee. Westport, Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited, 2007. This is a very valuable, comprehensive resource.

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